

## **Farming in the Canadian North-West.**



**Farming in the  
Canadian North-West.**

BY  
AN OLD SETTLER.

LONDON  
**HENRY J. DRANE**  
(YE OLDE ST. BRIDE'S PRESSE),  
SALISBURY HOUSE, SALISBURY SQUARE,  
FLEET STREET, E.C.



*Printed by Henry J. Drane (Ye Olde Saint Bride's Presse),  
Salisbury House, Salisbury Square, E.C.*

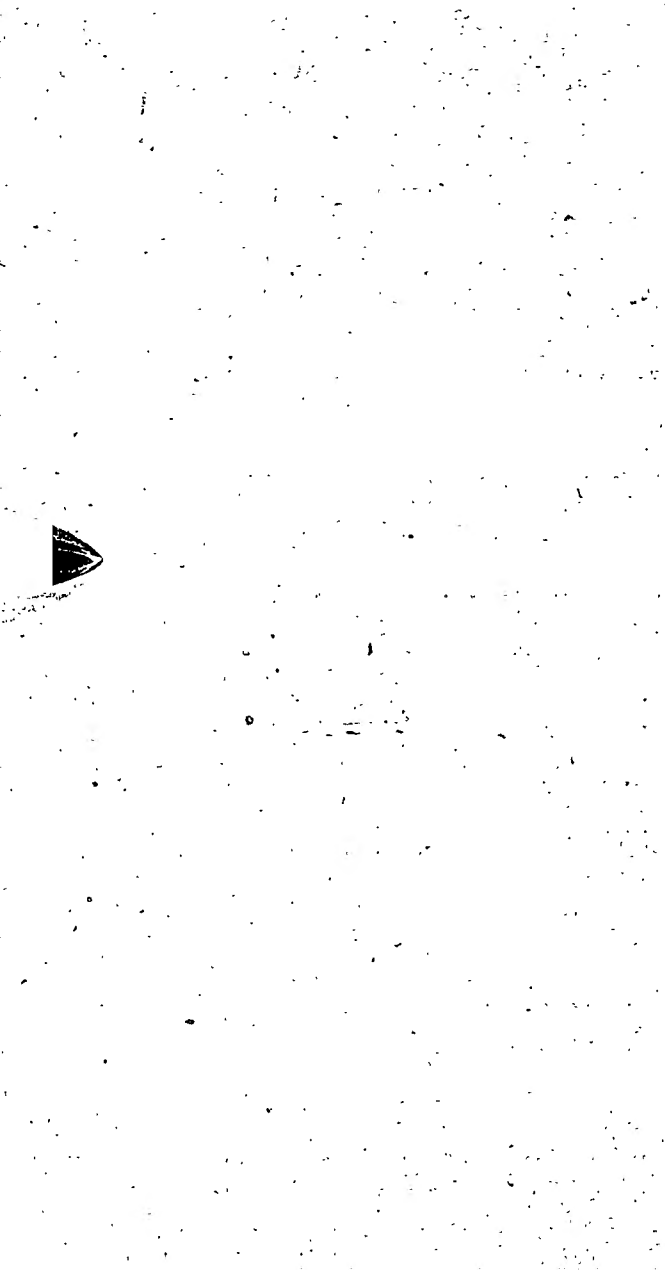
## INTRODUCTION.

---

IN response to repeated enquiries for a practical book on Canadian farming, I have endeavoured to put in this little work a succession of facts and practical hints without unnecessary detail.

While I do not claim for it any success as a literary composition, it will be found of great service to intending settlers, and cannot fail to appeal to the class for whom it is intended, written as it is by an old settler in plain and simple language.

It deals chiefly with mixed farming as practised in Manitoba, North-west of Winnipeg, between Portage-la-Prairie and Yorkton, on the Manitoba and North Western Railway, to where a large part of the present day emigration is directed.



## CONTENTS.

---

CHAPTER	PAGE
Introduction, - - - - -	5
I.—Climate, etc., - - - - -	9
II.—Choice of Farms, - - - - -	12
III.—Taking up a Homestead, - - - - -	13
IV.—First Year's Work on the Home- stead, - - - - -	17
V.—First Year's Work <i>contd.</i> —Hay- making, - - - - -	21
VI.—Second Year's Work—Work in Spring, - - - - -	24
VII.—Second Year's Work <i>contd.</i> — Wheat, - - - - -	25
VIII.—Second Year's Work <i>contd.</i> — Oats and Barley, - - - - -	29
IX.—Rotation of Crops, - - - - -	31
X.—Kitchen Garden, - - - - -	33
XI.—Road Making, - - - - -	34
XII.—Dairy Farming, - - - - -	35
XIII.— „ „ <i>continued</i> , - - - - -	39
XIV.—Pigs, - - - - -	41



## CONTENTS.

CHAPTER	PAGE
xv.—Poultry, - - - - -	45
xvi.—Horse Breeding, - - - - -	47
xvii.—Sheep, - - - - -	50
xviii.—Harvest, - - - - -	52
xix.—Stacking and other "Fall" Work, - - - - -	54
xx.—Threshing, etc., - - - - -	56
xxi.—Shooting, - - - - -	60
xxii.—Markets, - - - - -	61
xxiii.—Cattle Farming, - - - - -	62
xxiv.—Taxes, - - - - -	67
xxv.—Laws and Customs, - - - - -	68
xxvi.—Labour, - - - - -	70
xxvii.—Social Advantages, etc., - - - - -	73
xxviii.—Failures and their Causes, - - - - -	76
xxix.—How Success can be Obtained, - - - - -	80

# FARMING IN THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

---

## CHAPTER I.

### CLIMATE, ETC.

To those who possess a small capital, and are desirous of making a comfortable living, with provision for old age, I know of no other British colony that offers the same advantages as the Canadian North-West.

The climate is bracing. The summers are usually hot and dry, and although the days are very warm there is generally a cool, refreshing breeze in the evening. The winters are bright, crisp, and cold, with a particularly dry air; at times the thermometer may register forty or more degrees below zero. Owing to the extreme dryness of the atmosphere one does not experience so much discomfort as they would on a cold, raw day of an English winter.

There are good schools in most districts. In new settlements, as soon as there are sufficient children of school age, schools are erected.

There are no heavy taxes; the laws are sound, affording ample protection for the farming community.

The soil is a rich, dark loam, mostly with a clay subsoil, exceedingly fertile, and easily brought under cultivation.

Farming in Canada is divided in three classes. Wheat farming in Southern Manitoba, mixed farming in the North-West, and ranching in the Far West.

---

Canada has the advantage of being nearer than any other British colony to the best market in the world. With its increasing exports to the mother-country, and thousands of acres of virgin prairie still waiting for the plough, a very bright future is assured to Canada.

The emigrants of to-day have many advantages denied to the early settlers. The newcomers have the benefit of their experience without the hardships. The early settlers of Manitoba had many weary miles to travel to the nearest town; frequently a week's journey each way. To-day this is all changed, thanks to the enterprise of the Canadian Pacific Railway Coy., it is now possible to travel in comfort to within a few miles of any settlement. The cost of transportation is not one-half of what it used to be in the early days, special facilities being afforded by the railway companies for the carriage of furniture, machinery, and all other settlers' effects to their destination. Trains stop at stations westward bound, where

meals may be purchased. The colonists cars are specially provided with stoves for their use for heating water, etc. All trains are met on arrival at Winnipeg by the Government agents, whose business it is to give colonists all information they may require concerning their future home; to direct them as to the best means of getting there, and see they are not imposed on.

---

There are good hotels in Winnipeg, most of them have free 'buses to meet all trains. The charges range from a dollar per day upwards. The dollar a day hotel is one of the special features of Canada.

As the country is opened up, so villages and small towns are created, with their stores and large grain elevators. There is scarcely any small town where all modern machinery cannot be purchased. Blacksmiths, Wheelwrights, Harness-makers, and men of other industries, appear on the scene as soon as a new settlement is formed. Railways are branching out in all directions, ready to convey the farmer's produce to the large towns and ports.

The Government has provided experimental farms, one at Brandon, Manitoba, the other at Indian-head, Assiniboa. There are experts for the various departments, who travel up and down country lecturing and giving advice generally. These farms are doing an immense good in finding out the best sorts of cereals and grasses to grow in the respective districts. They exist solely for the settlers' benefit. As

they have the same elements to contend with, it will be seen they are doing a very practical work. Farmers may have doubtful seeds tested free of expense, and advice as to the best sorts of grain to grow in their respective districts.

## CHAPTER II.

---

### CHOICE OF FARMS.

To be a successful Canadian farmer, it is essential to possess good health and strength, with a determination to overcome all obstacles. Disappointment must come, but success is assured in the end, although the results may not be apparent until after the third year.

March is the best time to leave England, as the snow in Manitoba commences to disappear about the first of April, when the spring opens up. This is the time of the year when the real work begins, and farmers are wanting extra hands. It is advisable to work out at least one season with a good farmer to gain experience, as the growing periods are totally different to those in England. During the time one is gaining experience, the intending settler should be on the lookout for a suitable place for himself, either to take up a Government homestead of 160 acres, or to rent a farm (one in cultivation for preference). By so

doing he would be able to put in a crop in the spring and have something to sell at the end of the year. Sometimes it is possible to rent a farm by giving the owner a third of the crop, free of expense, grain only, in lieu of rent. This is a very satisfactory arrangement for a beginner. Should there be any mishap one is not in debt as the owner shares the risk. Farms can be purchased from 3 to 6 dollars per acre according to location, number of acres under cultivation, house, stables, water, and other improvements found thereon. Sometimes one comes across farms that have been abandoned through lack of capital, and have got into the hands of Mortgage companies (so-called Improved farms). These farms have no advantage over ordinary prairie land, as both have to be broken up, and a crop cannot be put in till the following spring. There is also a choice of railway lands in most districts, which can be purchased on the deferred payment system.

### CHAPTER III.

#### TAKING UP A HOMESTEAD.

If the settler decides to take up a Government homestead of 160 acres, after having made a choice of district in which to settle, application should be made to the nearest Government

Lands office for a list of vacant lands in that district, naming the range and township in which he wishes to settle.

Before making a choice of homestead he must decide which branch of farming he intends to follow. If cattle farming only, cattle will require plenty of range to feed, also water. There is no difficulty in obtaining sufficient water during the summer months on the surface in waterholes or sloughs. The main point is to get into a district where one is fairly certain of securing a well of good spring water for the winter. A farm without water in winter is practically useless to try and carry any number of cattle on—in fact the water is most important on all farms. Plenty of hay is also required for the winter months, so it will be seen, the less populated the district, the better it will be for cattle farming. As the cattle can walk to market there is no need to be near a town. Manitoba is specially adapted to mixed farming, and the latter is most popular, "Don't have all your eggs in one basket" is a good maxim.

If mixed farming is aimed at, the chief point to be observed is that at least half of the 160 acres should be good dry land of fair elevation, facing south if possible; this will give an advantage of at least ten days in the ripening of the grain—an item of no small importance owing to early frosts.

Although the Government offers homesteads of 160 acres, it does not follow that it is all

high land fit for cultivation. The prairie has its flats as well as its hills. I have seen quarter sections of 160 acres where no more than 30 acres fit for ploughing can be found on them. These poor quarter sections often prove an acquisition to a good one, specially is it so when they are on the same section, as a son of 18 is eligible to take it up. In this case it would be a welcome addition as the one fence would enclose the lot.

---

Another consideration is to be as near a railway as possible, so as to be in touch with the chief grain markets. This would enable one to ship direct to the large grain centres from the threshing machine; also to catch the early markets before navigation closes, prices then being usually at their best. The man who makes a point of catching the early markets is, as a rule, better off in the end.

When application for homestead entry is made, a fee of 10 dollars is charged. This entitles one to take possession. After fulfilling certain duties, extending over a period of three years from date of entry, the settler is entitled to apply for patent or title deeds.

Homestead duties consist of at least six months' residence in each year and a reasonable cultivation of the land during the term of three years.

When applying for patent, another fee of 5 dollars is charged to meet the Homestead Inspector's expenses. If the duties are fulfilled to his satisfaction he will recommend the



patent, and the farm becomes freehold in due course. Should the application not be made within five years the homestead entry is liable to be cancelled. When the application is made, it is necessary to give six months' notice, in writing, to the Commission of Dominion Lands at Ottawa.

Assuming one is now located on a homestead, the first duty will be to get materials for building a house. A very convenient frame-house can be built for about 300 dollars, inclusive of labour. This is roughly £60 of English money. Should the settler's funds be limited, a log-house might answer his purpose until such a time he is able to build a better one; although a log-house, well put up, is hard to beat for warmth in winter. Building logs can be had from the bush for the cutting, they should be cut during the winter and teamed on to the homestead ready for putting up in the spring. The first outlay would be for a team of horses, harness, bob-sleighs, felling axe and logging chain. A good serviceable team of horses would probably cost 300 dollars or less, bob-sleighs 25 dollars, harness 30 dollars, axe and logging chain a further 5 dollars, a total of about £72. The harness is so adapted that only the one set is needed to do all the work on the farm. As the horses walk abreast in everything they do, no extra outlay for trace and other harness is required. Having purchased the above outfit, the settler will be ready for his winter's work in the bush.

There are camps in the bush which are used by the farmers going to and from for their logs and firewood. As these places are only shelters, one must go provided with food and rugs for themselves and horses.

Two sets of logs should be got out, one for the house and one for the stables, about 40 logs in each set. At the same time fence posts should be cut, and these are mostly red willow or tamarac, about 4 to 6 inches through. If tamarac posts are cut about 12 feet long, they make a very convenient load. This also permits of the chopped ends being pointed, and, when sawn in two, leaves two flat heads for driving.

Everything should be got from the bush and on to the homestead before the thaw sets in, as the snow roads then become too soft for holding up heavy loads on sleighs, and teaming with waggons is quite out of the question for at least two weeks after the snow has departed.

## CHAPTER IV

### FIRST YEAR'S WORK ON THE HOMESTEAD.

From the first to the middle of April, the snow has generally disappeared sufficiently to permit of work on the land.

The settler should now set to work in earnest to break up his land, selecting that part which

presents the least obstacles, so as to get as much broken up the first year as possible.

A suitable combination plough can be bought for 18 or 20 dollars; this would have a breaker and stubble mould board which are interchangeable.

All large stones, too heavy to be turned out by the plough, should be left, as no time must be lost at this period in trying to remove them. Attention to the larger stones can be given before the land is back set, or, in other words, ploughed a second time.

It should be borne in mind that in breaking up prairie land one must be prepared for any emergency. Extra plough shares will sure to be required, also an axe or mattock in readiness to cut away any roots that threaten to impede progress. As a rule there is not much clearing to be done beyond a few small scrubby bushes. Anything larger is seldom or never cleared as it is very doubtful if it would pay for the labour.

It is a common thing to see small bluffs of poplar or clumps of willow standing in the centre of a ploughed field.

In breaking up prairie land it is advisable to plough shallow the first time. The second ploughing should be two or more inches deeper, by this method the turf is buried on each occasion.

Breaking up prairie land is not continued long after June unless the season is very wet; as the ground gets dry and the roots tough,

ploughing becomes trying for both man and beast.

Oxen make an ideal breaking team, as they go steady and will stop as soon as the plough strikes anything hard, here their utility ceases. A slow team also gives a man time to use his foot to keep back any turf that is inclined to fall into the furrow. With regard to horses, the heavier they are the slower they walk, and consequently there is not the same risk of breakages as there is with lighter horses.

If the settler is not inclined to do this part of the work himself, he can usually hire a man and horses to break it up the first time for 3 dollars per acre. When the required number of acres is broken up attention should be given to the building of the house. If of logs, they should be stripped of the bark and got in readiness for placing in position. The house should face south, on the highest point possible, to command a good view of the farm and surrounding district. This would ensure a dry cellar—an absolute necessity in Manitoba—for it is here that potatoes and other such perishables are stored during winter. Most farmers line their cellar with wood or stones. I have found the former to answer very well.

Should the settler be fortunate enough to possess any poplar bluffs or small clumps of trees, advantage can be taken of them to protect the house from cold north winds. This is entirely a matter of choice. Some people prefer an open space so as to have as much air

as possible during summer, but in either case the house should not be more than 100 yards from the stables and other buildings.

When the settler is ready to commence building the house and stables, it is the custom to get up a "bee," or in other words, to ask his neighbours' assistance in raising the logs into position. The Canadian farmer is very social and hospitable, and is always willing to lend a helping hand to a new settler.

If the logs are round, they should be saddled and grooved at each corner of the building to hold them secure, this part of the work should be left to the neighbours, most of them being clever with the axe.

If this plan is adopted, the logs would all be placed in position ready for roofing in one day. All spare time should be given to the house in roofing, chinking, and plastering. The chinking consists of filling in the spaces between each log with strips of rough wood which are afterwards plastered with a mixture of sand and lime.

## CHAPTER V.

FIRST YEAR'S WORK—*continued*.

## HAYMAKING.

ABOUT the middle of July, hay is ready to cut. Here it is different to that in the old country. There is not the same sweet herbage of clovers, etc., in fact there is no fine green sward, on the other hand it is chiefly coarse grasses. Hay is not cut on the uplands but in sloughs and marshes, these places being full of water in spring from the melting of the snow. Very tall grasses grow here which make excellent fodder, and are cut year after year without fertilising. Although the cattle have free access to these places, they seldom touch the grasses when growing, knowing these spots to be the breeding place of mosquitos.

This hay requires little making, it is simply cut, left to dry, raked and then stacked. In some districts there is a lot of land owned by speculators and land companies, and the option of cutting hay here can be had generally by paying the taxes.

A mower and rake costs from 70 to 80 dollars. By paying cash for all implements, one is in a better position for making bargains, and should obtain a substantial rebate.

Before proceeding further, I should like to

point out the curse of getting machinery and implements on the credit system, this being the keynote of many failures. Dealers are only too ready to let you have what you require at an enhanced price, *plus* 10 per cent. for accommodation. Many farmers have paid twice over for their binders, etc., under this system, and I know of several cases where the machinery has been quite worn out before the last payment has been made. Make sure you really require the implement before buying it, and then, if possible, pay cash.

The next thing to be bought is a waggon, and this will cost about 60 dollars. The waggon box or body is made to lift on or off, and hay racks are fitted to the bolsters. Some hay racks are dish-shaped, others flat, with fore and back ladders. They can be made at home if the settler is at all handy with tools. It is really surprising what a man can accomplish when put to the test.

For each team of horses, fifteen loads of hay are required to carry them through until the season is round again.

When hay is cut any distance from the homestead it is customary to stack on high ground close to where it has been cut, and can then be teamed to the farm as wanted; during winter, when there is more time. The last load each day is generally taken home for immediate wants.

Very little care is necessary in putting up hay as there is no fear of rain through the

winter, and it is nearly all consumed by the time spring arrives.

When stacked it should be fenced with barbed wire to keep out stray horses and cattle that may be roaming the prairie.

A fire-guard should also be ploughed round it as a preventative against fires. A very safe guard can be made by ploughing a strip of land, ten yards wide, then leave a space of ten yards unploughed in the centre, and then plough another strip of ten yards on the outside of this. Proceed either to burn or cut down any tall grasses that remain on the unploughed strip in the centre.

Very few, if any, farmers insure their stacks against fire, as the fire-guard, insisted on by insurance companies, is sufficient protection in itself.

This fire-guard is necessary for the house and other buildings, and any bluffs that may be considered of value.

The guard should be made as autumn approaches when the grasses become dry.

A good plan is to grow root crops, especially potatoes, on the guard, as constant hoeing keeps it free of weeds and so serves a double purpose.

After haymaking is finished, attention should be given to the land in removing stones ready for back setting. When back setting has been done the land will require no further attention until spring. Meanwhile, the winter frost will have mellowed it, so that very little harrowing



will be needed to bring it into a good tilth for sowing. As far as the farm is concerned, this practically ends the first year's work.

Assuming a man has no cattle or other matters to keep him at home, there is no reason why he should remain on the homestead after the ground is frozen up. If he is desirous of earning a few dollars, and does not mind roughing it a little, he might take a job for himself and horses with a threshing machine. This work would last for about two months and the pay is generally good; further, it would give him an opportunity of meeting other farmers and gaining much useful information.

## CHAPTER VI.

### SECOND YEAR'S WORK.

#### WORK IN SPRING.

DURING the winter months a well should be dug. The expense of this will be regulated according to the depth one has to go before they strike water, which may be anything from 20 to 100 feet.

In most districts there is a man who makes a speciality of well-digging, whose services should be obtained, as he would most likely find water where the novice would fail. The

customary price for digging is fifty cents per foot. The cribbing for lining a well is made of wood in sections of about 10 or 12 feet. The shorter the better for lowering; in the event of one failing to strike a spring they are easily drawn out again.

This year a granary will be required to store grain, and is the most important building on a farm. With a good granary a farmer can hold his grain for favourable markets, or until it suits him to sell. It also enables him to keep his seed and feed dry. The building should be of boards, nailed to upright posts, about eight feet to the eaves. It should have a good shingle roof, with a floor raised at least 2 feet from the ground. I suggest boards in preference to logs, this avoiding constant plastering entailed by a log building, and consequently is always ready for use when required.

## CHAPTER VII.

### SECOND YEAR'S WORK—*continued.*

#### WHEAT.

WHEAT is the first crop sown. At the first sign of spring the seed should be pickled as a preventative against smut. The pickle is made by dissolving 1-lb of Sulphate of Copper,

commonly called "Blue-stone," in hot water. Place it in a tub, then add sufficient cold water to cover 1 bushel of wheat. The latter is put into a sack and immersed in the solution, then taken out, and spread evenly on the granary floor to dry, and should be turned over occasionally. The above solution is sufficient to pickle 8 bushels of wheat. There are other preparations on the market, but "blue-stone" is invariably used.

As soon as the snow has departed sufficiently to permit work on the land, commence to harrow for wheat. This cereal cannot be sown too early, and under no circumstance should it be drilled after the 10th of May, as it would become liable to the early frost in late August, or early September.

A few figures here will assist the reader to understand the above remarks.

A crop of frozen wheat yielding 30 bushels per acre, would probably realise about 30 cents per bushel, or 9 dollars per acre. Against this, compare a crop of oats yielding 60 bushels per acre. If sold at 20 cents per bushel, would return 12 dollars per acre. For the above reasons I do not advise growing a large acreage of wheat—hence my advice "don't have too many eggs in one basket."

For new land, wheat should be drilled at the rate of 3 bushels per acre; this is considered a heavy sowing generally, and is a very good fault, as heavy sowings have a tendency to ripen earlier. Should one attempt to sow lighter on

virgin soil, it would result in a rank growth of straw, and probable disappointment in the end.

Take no chances on the score of bad seed, as it always pays to sow the best. A crop spoilt means a season lost in every sense of the word. If the seed is good, one can depend upon a crop, as the wireworm is conspicuous by its absence.

There are several kinds of wheat sown, Eureka and Ladoga of the bearded sorts, also the red and white Fife. The latter varieties meet with most favour from the buyers and millers, and consequently are more generally grown.

Manitoba justly claims to grow the best wheat in the world, and can always command the premier price in the London markets. The average yield per acre is not so large as in England where wheat land is kept in a high state of cultivation. This is the explanation.

In Manitoba, I regret to say, a good deal of careless farming is practised. It is safe to state that in most cases the principles of good farming, so strictly observed in England, are not generally applied out West.

In the first place, a large percentage of settlers have never farmed before, therefore their knowledge on agricultural matters is limited.

There is a tendency to grow wheat on the same land too often, without the assistance of any fertiliser. Frequently farmers have more land than they can properly manage. In late seasons this often results in wheat being drilled,

without the land being ploughed, and this is one of the results of diverse yields.

It is a common practice amongst some farmers to burn off stubble in the spring and drill wheat. Sometimes it will get disc-harrowed, very often not. This practice cannot be too strongly condemned, as it not only exhausts the soil, but allows the strong rooted weeds to develop and get such a hold of the land that it takes years to recover.

In England wheat is generally taken after clover, a restorative crop, or after roots, feed off by sheep on the ground—sometimes after bare fallows.

The land is ploughed, harrowed, and rolled perhaps twice in a season, and very often artificials are applied if the crops show any sign of flagging.

If one compares the two systems of farming the reason of small yields is not far to see.

In Manitoba sufficient attention is not given to the resources of the soil, too much is left to rainfall and seasons.

Although two farms may be adjoining, there is very often a great variation in yields. This is mainly due to the fact that one farmer has cultivated his land more than another, and the difference may be anything from 15 to 50 bushels per acre. Averages do not always represent possibilities of the soil; in the above case they are apt to be very misleading.

Experiments are being conducted in England with varying success to produce wheat equal in

strength to the famous Fives of Manitoba. Up to the present "The Lady of the Snows" is still mistress of the position. I am quite convinced that wheat grown on summer fallow or virgin soil in Manitoba, given fair conditions of cultivation, will not only surpass in quality the wheat grown in the old country, but in yield also.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### SECOND YEAR'S WORK—*continued.*

#### OATS AND BARLEY.

OATS is the second crop sown. Unlike wheat they will stand several degrees more frost, without the corresponding loss in price. They should not be sown after the 25th of May.

The White American Banner and the Black Tartarian are the chief varieties grown. For new land the sowing should be at the rate of 3 bushels per acre, and all cereals should be drilled in preference to broad-casting. The drill puts the seed down out of the reach of small birds, and the crop also ripens more evenly. We have the proverbial crow in Canada, but as his range of feed is unlimited, his mischief is not so extensive as in the old country.

As oats are grown mostly for feed purposes, nothing is done to the seed beyond a thorough cleaning. I think I am right in saying the American Banner predominates, it being a nice bold oat, and a fair cropper, and sometimes is fit for milling purposes. It produces a nice clean straw of good feeding quality, and is somewhat earlier than the Black Tartarian. The latter's only recommendation is that it is a very heavy cropper, yielding upwards of 80 bushels per acre. However, on low lying lands and moist soils they do not stand up very well, and are more inclined to rust than the American Banner. The straw is very coarse and of inferior quality for feeding purposes, and one often has to take a few cents less per bushel for Black Tartarians.

A common mistake made with oats by many farmers is, repeatedly sowing the same seed without changing. Each year it deteriorates, and finally becomes exhausted, until the oats are little better than chaff. Another fatal mistake frequently made with white varieties is sowing frozen oats, although the seed may appear nice and plump; it often happens that after having been subjected to several degrees of frost before being cut, its germinating powers is seriously affected, and, if sown, probably 50 per cent. would fail to grow.

When in doubt about seed, it should be changed or tested. The black varieties change to a light mahogany colour when frozen, and are more readily detected than the white.

Barley is not extensively grown, it being an uncertain market in most districts, although the demand for it is steadily increasing. Where pigs are kept, or winter dairying is practiced, barley chop proves a good stand-by.

It will ripen in about twelve to fourteen weeks. This is a decided advantage, as it permits of being sown long after other crops. Frequently it is sown as late as the 1st of June, and then is often the first to cut. There is no question but what good barley would be grown if there was sufficient demand for it. The soil and high temperature are both in favour of this cereal.

## CHAPTER IX.

### ROTATION OF CROPS.

THERE is no strict rotation followed, such as is practised in the old country, most farmers growing what they think likely to pay best.

Wheat is generally allotted the best land on the farm, then oats and barley.

The North-West farmers have yet to learn that, with careful rotation and reasonable cultivation, they might easily make two blades grow where there is only one at present. Very few grow roots in large quantities, perhaps because of the lack of storage accommodation, or for the trouble and time they take in hoeing



and keeping clean. This is not surprising in a country where labour is scarce and time is all-important. The more progressive farmers reckon to summer fallow a portion of their land each year, and this plan is recommended. In addition to renovating the soil it reduces the spring work, and there is always a piece of land ready to drill with wheat at the earliest opportunity.

The land intended for summer fallow should be left unploughed until the end of June. By that time there will be a luxuriant crop of weeds growing on it, chiefly wild mustard or pigweed. This should all be ploughed in before it commences to seed.

If a single furrow walking plough is used, a heavy chain should be attached from the beam of the plough to the whipple-trees to draw the weeds into the furrow. The gang, or double furrow ploughs, have iron bars provided for this purpose, but this kind of plough requires three or four horses to draw it.

Beyond ploughing in the weeds, no other fertiliser is required, the land is then left until the following spring.

While there is no strict rotation observed, the farming customs and usages are more general over a large area than is the case in the old country, where each county has its own kind of plough, and often its own peculiar names for the same animals, work, tools, etc.

## CHAPTER X.

## KITCHEN GARDEN.

~~AFTER~~ risk of night frosts is past, the kitchen garden should receive attention, but potatoes should be in the ground by the 24th of May. They are often ploughed in and out. Care should be taken not to put them in too deep or they will be a long time coming through, and small potatoes will be the result in the autumn.

The growing period for potatoes is short, and consequently they should be put in shallow, so as to receive full benefit of the warm sun. Potatoes are a *most important* crop in Manitoba as they are almost the only vegetable one gets in the winter months, and on most farms appear on the table, in some form or other, three times a day. The soil is well adapted for potatoes and they should be given a dry situation on land that is well drained. If this is carefully observed a good crop will follow. They must be kept clear of weeds, and hilled up as soon as the haulm is sufficiently high to avoid being covered by the plough.

Most vegetables common in the old country will grow, but nothing will stand out through the winter. Turnips, beetroot, carrots, parsnips, onions, cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce, raddishes, and peas, etc. Tomatoes may be started in the

house in March, but are a risky crop, as the slightest frost cuts them up. Rhubarb is about the only thing that remains out through the winter. Huge melons are grown, also citrons for preserving. Strawberries, gooseberries, and raspberries grow wild, but do not attain the same size as those under cultivation, although of excellent flavour.

## CHAPTER XI.

### ROAD-MAKING

ROAD-MAKING is usually done between seed time and haymaking to meet the farmer's convenience. All lands are taxed in municipalities for the maintenance of roads, and farmers are given the option of working their "statue labour" out in their own respective districts. Most of the road-work in country districts is done by the settlers themselves. A farmer is appointed in each district as Road Master. He advises the farmers on his beat as to where and when he proposes to do work for their mutual interest. Perhaps a bridge has to be made across a stream or a culvert renewed, or, as a settlement is opened up, a road extended, and often steep hills have to be graded. This is not so formidable as it looks, large hills being pulled down in a very short time. The Canadian farmer does not believe in the pick

and shovel; where there is any levelling to be done the horses do most of the work.

Some teams are set off to do the ploughing, others will follow behind and pick up the soil in specially adapted scrapers. These resemble large coal scuttles with two handles on behind, which the teamster raises when he wants to fill. The horses draw this into the ploughed soil, and when it is filled the handles are dropped. It is then drawn to where it is to be deposited. The handles are again raised, the front edge catches in the ground, and the horses pull it over. In this way tons of soil are moved in a day that never see pick or shovel. Each farmer brings, or sends a team, and puts in the required number of days, according to the land he owns.

This work affords a little diversion from the ordinary routine of farm work, and the workers are usually a very jolly lot.

## CHAPTER XII.

### DAIRY FARMING.

At the earliest opportunity a start should be made with a few cows, and these cost from 30 to 35 dollars per head, or about seven pounds in English money.

I cannot too strongly recommend the importance of cattle to any new settler. The

most prosperous farmers in Manitoba to-day are those with a good herd of cattle behind them. Cattle are the backbone of Canadian farming, and can be safely reckoned on as a sure crop. Notwithstanding what has been said to the contrary, I found Canadian cattle less subject to disease and other ailments so common to cows in the old country, and I speak from experience. On that account a man would have less trouble in Manitoba with a hundred head than he would in England with twenty.

Where dairying is combined with beef raising, the Shorthorn cows will be found most useful for the purpose. They are good milkers, and grow quickly into beef taking weight for age. In numbers, the Shorthorn probably exceeds all the other breeds put together.

There are several good herds in the province of Manitoba, where the animals have been carefully bred from the best imported stock. Of recent years there has been a great levelling up in type, and most farmers, worthy of the name, keep their pure-bred bull. Good bulls should always be used, good cattle can only come from good sires; always bear in mind, like produces like.

A visit to the great Industrial Show held at Winnipeg will prove the wonderful perfection some of the herds mentioned above have attained. I venture to think that if some of the old country farmers could be induced to pay it a visit, it would be an eye-opener for

them, and we should hear less of the embargo on Canadian cattle.

There are good herds of Ayrshires and Holsteins in the province; as these are chiefly dairy breeds they are unsuitable for the dual purpose of butter and beef.

---

To obtain the best results, cows should be timed to calve as near March as possible, the calves are then a nice size by the time the grass arrives, and should be hand-fed from the commencement. Should they be allowed to suck the cow they seldom forget it and will most likely prove very troublesome in sucking the cows when old enough to run out with the herd.

Where the cream is sent to the creameries, this would give the calves the benefit of the new milk for about six weeks, until the creameries commenced operations in May. This is most essential to produce good growing animals, and it is a well-known fact that it is the first year that makes the beast. The class of steer one has to sell three years hence, also depends greatly upon how the calves are managed. In addition to the above, calves will have the whole of the summer to graze in, and will then do well enough on the separated milk and the natural grasses of the prairie.

Where numbers of calves are raised, the calf-pen will mostly be found in close proximity to the milk-house. A large dug out tree or trough is connected with the cream separator by a small guttering through the wall. During the

time separating is going on, calves are allowed out to drink the separated milk while yet warm. Care should be taken to allow out only the smaller and weaker ones together. If the stronger ones were allowed out at the same time they would probably get the lion's share as they drink much faster. The above method is a great saving of time over the old system of feeding each calf from the pail when once they have learned to drink.

---

The most prominent feature of the North-west farmer is the way he manages to reduce labour to a minimum, everything is conducted with this end in view. Necessity has been the chief cause in bringing this about.

Mosquitos are very troublesome during the early summer in country districts. Their presence is specially marked in moist seasons, and are much in evidence on dull days and towards sunset. They are particularly attentive to new comers, also very worrying to cattle and horses, and are often the means of driving the latter home at sunset. It is a custom to burn a "smudge" made of wet straw or manure; the object is to create as much smoke as possible. This is done in the kraal or compounds in which the cattle are kept overnight.

It is very odd to see the cattle rush up and fall in line directly underneath the smoke, even calves soon learn what the smudge is meant for. It is the custom to place a cow-bell on the most likely cow for leading home at night, usually the remainder of the herd will follow it. The

bell also enables one to find out their whereabouts in the event of their failing to return.

If at milking-time the cattle are not back to the homestead, nine times out of ten they will be found in the direction from which the wind is blowing, as they graze against the wind to avoid the flies. When looking for them make for every high point available, this often avoids riding aimlessly about in search of them. A pair of field glasses will help to distinguish your own herd from others when at a distance, and a good cattle dog, when properly trained, will be of greater use. It quickly learns to distinguish the sound of the leader's bell from all others, and will often go miles to find them, eventually separating them from different herds and bringing them home.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### DAIRY FARMING—*continued.*

CREAMERIES send their own carts to collect cream from the farms within a radius of twenty miles, two or three times a week. They come provided with special cans in which cream is measured by the inch. Generally speaking, an inch of cream is equivalent to one pound of butter, providing the cream is of fair thickness. Two small samples are taken from each lot if required, one is left with the farmer, the other



tested at the Creamery. The farmer is paid according to results at the end of the season when the butter is marketed.

Sweet cream is one of the conditions insisted on when collecting. In the height of summer various means are adopted to overcome this difficulty. Some farmers store large blocks of ice, between sawdust, in the milkhouse in the winter, should ice be cut in the district. Of course, circumstances govern most things in this direction. Those who are not favoured with a milkhouse, and are not within reach of a lake where ice is cut, lower their cream down the well in specially adapted long "creamer" cans. An excellent method is to dig a well for the purpose about 18 feet deep. If this is filled with snow during winter, and water poured on the top of it, it will freeze into a solid block if the well is left uncovered for a few nights. In such a place as described anything can be kept for a reasonable time. Care should be taken, however, to exclude as much air as possible on very hot days.

Some Creameries are owned by farmers themselves and run on the Co-operative principle. Others are owned privately. I believe that, in both cases, they receive special encouragement from the Government. In many instances, the owners of a private Creamery keeps a private store where almost anything required can be purchased. Goods can be obtained as a set off against the cream one has to his credit, until the end of the

season. The cream from ten cows will keep a good size family in clothes and groceries through the season. By keeping cows one is able to live clear of debt, all the summer while the crops are growing.

Most Creameries supply separators to their patrons, providing they have sufficient cows. A portion of the cream is allotted each year in payment.

From the above it may be seen how necessary it is to purchase cows even if one has to do without machinery. The best plan is to buy the cows first and they in turn will buy the machinery. This would not take so long as one may suppose. A newcomer starting with ten cows, with ordinary care, should have a nice herd by the end of the third year.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### PIGS.

Pigs are quite important in dairy farming to consume the waste products; also to provide pork and bacon for family consumption, which, if purchased, would prove a large item in the household expenditure. Owing to the long distances some farms are from towns, fresh meat is not readily obtainable, and bacon is largely used during the summer months. This difficulty is overcome in winter, as most farmers kill their own animals. It is a common sight to see two or three pigs, a quarter or two

of beef, with prairie chicken and rabbits, hanging in some out-building. These freeze almost as soon as hung, and remain so all the winter.

The favourite breed of pigs are Yorkshires, Berkshires, and Tamworths.

Pigs can be made a very profitable part of the farm when properly managed. To breed indiscriminately is to court disaster or absolute failure. With careful management it is possible to bring in two farrows a year. Sows should not be allowed to farrow in winter, this being one of the pitfalls of pig raising in Manitoba. When they are inclined to do so, the remedy is to miss a month or two, and by doing so one would be amply repaid in the end for the loss of time, a great deal of worry and loss thus being avoided.

The best time to bring in the farrows are March and early September. The March farrows should be ready for sale in October, weighing 150 lbs. dressed. These weights are considered choice for the bacon factories, and command the best prices.

There is a growing demand for this class of pig at fairly remunerative prices. In the district I write of such hogs were making  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents per lb. live weight, deducting 5 per cent. for shrinkage.

As a rule, shipments to the bacon factories take place twice a year, when buyers are out looking them up. There is no other animal on the farm that will bring in quicker returns.

Swine fever and numerous other diseases

common to the pig in the old country are practically unknown in the North-west.

A good way to start with pigs is to buy a few young sows that have had litters. Do not allow brood sows to become too fat, by feeding too heavy, you will defeat your own ends. Bran, pollard, and middlings, are suitable foods if fed sloppy, and can be purchased from 10 to 12 dollars per ton if the settler is within easy reach of a mill.

Sows should have a warm pen to farrow in with but little litter, as the youngsters are liable to become smothered in the bedding. Rails should be fixed around the breeding pen to prevent the pigs being crushed against the wall as the sow lies down. They are made by nailing a 10-inch plank around the pen about 8 inches from the floor.

Little pigs are weaned in about 8 weeks, but before weaning they should be induced to eat a little food, such as middlings made sloppy with separated milk. When this is done, the sow should be moved right away if possible, and fed on non-milk producing foods. Allow her to return to the little ones after a couple of days or so, that they may draw out any milk she may have about her, this will prevent bad udders. If neglected it would most likely impair the sow's usefulness in the future.

Sows can mostly be mated again the first week after weaning. When this is done plenty of exercise should be allowed until near farrowing time again.

A great number of pigs are lost each year with "blind staggers" when in close confinement during winter. This is caused by heavy feeding or heating foods, such as chopped wheat and barley—both excellent foods for fattening when given in moderation.

There is a tendency to push pigs on too fast, but they will thrive much better if they are given no more than they will clear up each meal.

When it is noticed that pigs are affected with blind staggers withhold all foods for a time and force them to take exercise. An occasional feed of boiled turnips, or anything of a laxative nature, will greatly assist them to keep healthy. Changes of food are also desirable—prevention is always better than cure.

Feeding troughs are mostly home-made, and of a very durable kind—better still, are inexpensive. They are known locally as "dug-outs." A log of wood is selected, free from knots, about 10 feet or more in length, to suit requirements, and about 14 inches in diameter. Both ends are sawn off straight, and the bottom side is flattened to allow it to stand firm. It is then hewn out with an axe and a mattock to the required depth. The result is a pig trough that will last for years. Stakes are driven down at each end, and nailed to keep it in position. This is one of the many instances where necessity has proved the mother of invention.

Pigs require warmth, and must be housed in winter. In summer they may be kept in pens or stys outside in a shady place. Glaring sun is most injurious and often fatal.

## CHAPTER XV.

---

### POULTRY.

A VERY desirable addition to the farm is poultry. Apart from the usefulness of eggs, which appear regularly at every meal in some disguised form or other in summer, fowls clear up a lot of the shelled grain around the stack yard, which otherwise would be wasted. The cockerels also make a welcome change in the daily menu. Newcomers, as a rule, get their start in this line through the generosity of their neighbours as they seldom visit empty handed.

The Plymouth Rocks find great favour with the farmer's wife, as they are a good all-round bird and lay a fair number of eggs of a fair size. They are always good table birds and take kindly to their enforced confinement to the house during the winter.

Numbers of farmers keep pigs and fowls in the same building, as pigs produce great heat. Care should be taken that the pigs cannot get at the fowls, for should they once get a taste of them they would most likely eat the lot. During the winter when the fowls are housed,

the floor should be covered with chaff 10 inches deep, which can be saved from the threshing. At each feeding time the grain should be scattered in the chaff, as this will keep them busy scratching most of the day and consequently healthy. One or two hard-hearted cabbages suspended from the roof to within 2 or 3 feet from the floor will prove a great boon in supplying the necessary green food, and keep them active. Grit, broken china, etc., must be supplied, as it is impossible for them to find anything of that nature on the snow covered ground.

The dry atmosphere is conducive to good health, and there are no serious diseases prevalent amongst fowls. I am inclined to think that more fowls are lost each year through the cunning fox than any other cause. The badger also has a sneaking regard for them. His depredations are readily detected, as he burrows underneath the building and comes up directly beneath the fowls. This gentleman will return each night to replenish his stock and should be waited on with a rifle. He is hard to kill, and, like the proverbial cat, is credited with having nine lives.

There is always a sale for eggs at the local stores, these being looked upon as the perquisites of the farmer's wife. In most cases the care of the fowls falls on her shoulders.

## CHAPTER XVI.

## HORSE BREEDING.

Most farmers breed their own horses, and this should be an early venture for the new settler, so as to have sufficient horses as the farm extends.

Meanwhile, if it is intended to break up more land the following spring, and there is only the one team available, breeding should be deferred for another year, as in all probability the mares will be foaling when the heaviest part of the work is to be done.

Most breeds are represented, Clydesdales, Shires, Percherons, Hackneys, Cleveland bays, and the native, better known as the Bronco.

The Clydesdales are well to the front, and of which there are several good studs in the province. They are easily taught, and are very willing workers, requiring heavy feeding of oats when at hard work. Should they once be allowed to run down and loose flesh, a long time is taken to pick up again. Some people object to the Clydesdales as they are inclined to be a bit leggy. This is a great disadvantage on the high snow roads, or trails, in winter, as they flounder a good deal and find it difficult to keep up. However, when crossed with native mares, they make very good general purpose teams, capable of doing most of the farm work.



The Bronco is not well adapted for work on the land, but makes a good rough rider, and is very useful for herding cattle. He is rather fiery at first, and usually gives a good deal of trouble before he is finally subdued. He is very sure-footed on the rough prairie, and it is marvellous the way in which he avoids the badger holes when going at full gallop. Further, he is very intelligent, and will always take one home if left to himself.

Very often during winter storms the powdery snow drifts and fills in the trails, and also blows in the face of the driver, making it difficult to see far ahead. These are the times when horses should be allowed a free head, and they will never leave the trail.

The majority of farm horses do not wear shoes, and to this I attribute their good feet. It is quite a rare thing to meet a horse lame.

Mares should be timed to foal early in June as this would give them a rest of a few weeks before haymaking commenced. They are the better for being worked up to nearly the time due, in fact the writer has had them on the plough right up to the day, without having any ill effects afterwards. During warm nights they benefit by a run out in the pasture fields.

It is a bad plan to allow foals to run with the mares when out mowing, and I have known several promising colts lost through this careless practice. There is not the same danger with the plough, because after once or twice up and down the furrow they learn to

keep out of the way. The exercise is good for them and should be encouraged, besides it is most essential for their healthy development.

Mares are allowed to suckle the foals four or five months—by that time they will have learnt to graze a little. After weaning they should be offered a few oats, and hay, and every effort should be made to keep them growing.

The first winter they should be stabled at night, and allowed to run out round the straw stacks during the day.

Colts should be handled as much as possible, this saving a lot of trouble when breaking-in time arrives. As yearlings they are branded and turned out on to the prairie to roam at will, providing the laws of the district requires every man to fence or become responsible for his own crop. They like and thrive better in company, and will most probably keep close to the homestead until a band of horses turn up in the district. They then join them, and very likely that will be the last the farmer will see of them for months.

Some farmers round up their colts before winter sets in, others do not, but allow them to find their own living—very often at other people's expense.

Breaking-in is done in a more or less rough and ready way. The colts are brought up and stabled at three years old, and are harnessed daily to accustom them to the harness. After which they are hitched to the bob-sleighs and taken for a spin. Should they resent this and

show any temper they are pulled off the high trails and driven through the deep snow which very often has the desired effect of quieting them down. After they understand what is required of them, and grown accustomed to the use of the rein, they are given their first lesson on the plough. It is a good plan to mate them with an old horse who is accustomed to the work. They become more manageable and in a very short time will answer to the voice.

There is a tendency amongst some farmers to work colts too hard the first season. This is a great mistake, and much to be deplored. I have seen colts kept hard at it until the heart had been taken right out of them, and they have become most dejected looking creatures, like old horses. It is a most unwise and inhuman practice, as they seldom or ever make good beasts afterwards.

One will always find locally a good demand for the right kind of horses. A team of heavy draught horses will easily make 300 dollars to incoming settlers.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### SHEEP.

SHEEP are not extensively kept and do not enter largely into mixed farming as is the case in the old country—perhaps, for the individual

attention they require. In this respect a good deal of a man's time is taken up especially during the lambing season. Unfortunately this happens when the farmer's attention is urgently required on the land. The lack of sufficient housing accommodation is also one of the obstacles. Here and there are flocks, and some farmers make a speciality of certain breeds. Occasionally one meets a flock of Cotswolds, Oxford Downs, or Shropshires, but chiefly on stock farms. The former are considered the most hardy, and are better able to endure the long and severe winters. Generally speaking, they do not appeal to the average farmer where there is only two strands of barbed wire between them and the crops. My opinion is that a good deal can be made out of sheep when they are rightly managed and understood. Certainly there is not the loss from disease and other kindred ailments as is the case in the old country. The soil and the dry atmosphere are both in their favour.

When kept, they should be in sufficient numbers to occupy one man's time. They are naturally of a restless nature, and where there is only a few, will wander miles, particularly so should they be disturbed by a coyote or prairie wolf. To hurdle in the open in winter, as is done in England, and feed appropriate root crops, is quite out of the question in Manitoba. Straw and hay, supplemented by oat sheaves, must perforce be their staple food through the winter months. This is one of the drawbacks,

as six months out of the year they have to be trough fed, because grazing is not available on the snow covered prairie.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### HARVEST.

As August advances, harvest time draws near. The self-binder is overhauled, knives sharpened, and a stock of binding twine for tying the sheaves is laid in. The obsolete scythe and fagging hook find no place here.

Unless a man has fifty acres of crop to cut, it would be better and cheaper to pay a neighbour to do it, rather than go in debt for a self-binder.

As far as the eye can see over the prairie, everywhere is fields of grain. The farmer, who has watched the crops grow in every stage, casts anxious looks over the horizon—the old settlers know the signs of the times so well—for any night may bring frost and ruin the wheat.

Farmers often have to choose between a No. 2 grade, which means a few cents less per bushel, or risk a frozen crop. The latter would mean, most likely, a total loss of 50 per cent., and particularly so when the season has been moist and the growing time unduly prolonged.

Wheat is cut while the straw is green, more so than in the old country. This is how the famous Manitoba No. 1 hard is made.

At the commencement of harvest railway companies, fully alive to the requirements of the prairie province, run special excursion trains from the Eastern provinces bringing in the harvest hands. They come by hundreds, and are quickly snapped up at from 25 to 30 dollars per month, with board, lodging, and washing inclusive. No recognised hours are kept, days are long and nights are short, master and men work for the one end, viz., to see the harvest in.

I can well understand the feelings of a certain young Englishman who arrived out in Manitoba whilst harvest was in full swing. When writing home to his parents he told them that the farmers in Manitoba seemed to do only two things—sleep and work.

When once the start is made the binder is kept going all day long. Horses work for about three hours at a stretch and are then changed. This goes on from daylight till dark, until the whole crop is down.

As soon as the crop is stooked there is not the same danger from frost, and after a few days is tolerably safe.

Wheat is mostly put up in long stooks of about eight sheaves, pointing north and south. This allows the air to pass through them and also permits the sun to shine on both sides.

Three weeks is considered the right time for wheat to stand in the field before being stacked, although it is more often started immediately the cutting is done.

The great feature of the Manitoba harvest is that one can generally rely on about six weeks of dry harvest weather with good drying winds. Those who have harvested corn in the old country, with its constant dripping seasons, will appreciate this. I have only known of one real bad harvest in Manitoba, and this particular year it was more or less general.

---

## CHAPTER XIX.

### STACKING AND OTHER "FALL" WORK.

WHEN it is intended to keep the straw to feed the cattle, a sheltered spot should be chosen to build the stacks on, particularly from the north winds. This is where the cattle spend most of their days in winter.

As carting goes on, the gun is usually slung on behind the waggon, for most farmers like a shot at the prairie chickens that are sure to be found feasting on the stooks. They are about the size of a hen pheasant and are particularly good eating.

The stacks are mostly built round, in sets or twos or fours, allowing sufficient room for the threshing machine to draw in between them, and also with an eye to having the straw stacked in a sheltered position. Great care should be exercised in building the stacks as thatching is never done. If they are not carefully built they will probably rot in water, as the

first fall of snow usually thaws. In building a stack, a few sheaves should be stood up in the centre forming a round stook, around which other sheaves are placed in a circular fashion with their butt ends sloping downwards. This should be continued until the bottom measures four yards across, for many reasons it should not be made any wider. To proceed, lay round an outer layer of sheaves on their sides, with their butt ends outwards, and then continue laying towards the centre, the butt ends of each layer coming to the bands of the sheaves beneath it. This should be continued until the centre of the stack is reached. Keep going round from the outside to the centre, until the base of the stack is sufficiently high enough to commence topping out. Then make the final hearting up, and draw in each layer of sheaves as before mentioned until it comes to a peak in the centre. Each sheaf should have a tendency to run the water to the outside. There is no object in building stacks very high as it involves a lot of unnecessary pitching and hard work.

In such districts as Brandon (Wheat City), and the famous Portage plains, where wheat is the chief crop grown, straw is of little value and threshing is done in the fields. This avoids the necessity of stacking, as the bulk of the straw is burnt as fast as it comes from the machine, and is kept away from the separator by a team of horses attached to a bucking pole or rope.



As soon as harvest is over, potatoes should be got up. They are generally ploughed out. After picking over the rows once, the ground is given a stroke or two with the harrows, this uncovers any that may have been overlooked. It is important that the potatoes should be stored out of reach of the frost, and this is done by most farmers in the cellars under the house, covering them with straw. This method is much more convenient than pits outside, as it allows one to use from them as wanted, and permits of them being picked over on stormy days when it is impossible to work outside.

After potatoes are stored, every opportunity should be seized for stubble or "fall" ploughing. Every acre ploughed in the fall means an acre earlier for wheat in the spring. It is not advisable to plough if snow is on the ground, in fact it is not desirable to plough snow in at any time of the year as it keeps the ground cold.

## CHAPTER XX.

### THRESHING, ETC.

THRESHING brings us to the last stage of the farmer's year. The fields are scarcely cleared of stooks before the threshing machine draws into the settlement. This is always a red letter day in Manitoba, it being one of the times that brings the farmers together, and is looked upon as a Harvest Home.

The much "guessed and calculated" yield per

acre all comes out at the threshing. At this time, the farmer finds out, in some degree, his financial position, and is able to judge what his crop is worth.

Fully a week beforehand the farmer's household is busy preparing for the threshers, making bread, cakes, and pastry, and many other little things that only clever housekeepers think of. Perhaps a neighbour will kill a beast, and each farmer will take a quarter or so, or what he may require for the occasion, as twenty or more hungry men expect meat three times a day.

At these times, as in all other new countries, farmers depend on each other for assistance, and a good deal of exchange of labour is done. Most of them residing in the district come, and some bring their wives or daughters to assist in the house. When a farmer is unable to come himself, he usually sends a hired man.

Threshing is always a big job, as all the stacks are done at the one time.

The threshing gang proper consists of about 12 or 14 men, who are paid by the owner of the machine at the rate of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  dollars for pitchers, and 2 dollars per day for feeders. They work from daylight to dark, and very often by the light of the burning straw if there is a prospect of finishing up the job. Most engines burn straw for fuel, they are specially adapted for this, and it is one man's work firing. The gang is supposed to do all the pitching, band-cutting, feeding, and bagging,

and cart their own water. They come provided with special water carts for the latter purpose. This also is one man's work, as they often have to cart it long distances, preferring to go a mile or two to ladle it out of a water-hole, rather than wind it up out of a well at the farm.

The farmers themselves stack the straw and cart the grain away from the machine and see to the storing of it in the granary. No particular care is exercised in stacking the straw. It is simply spread out in a large pile as high as the elevator will carry it, with some sort of an attempt to put on a top.

Threshing is done quickly, and, with a good run, will do from 1,500 to 1,800 bushels of wheat, or upwards of 2,500 bushels of oats in a day.

Where farms are situated within easy reach of a railway, perhaps a car is loaded with wheat direct from the machine to catch the early markets if prices are sufficiently attractive.

A car load of wheat contains about 600 bushels, and about double that quantity of oats.

During the threshing period great activity prevails at the house. Special long tables are provided, placed on trestles, which are laden with steaming hot potatoes, roast beef, and other such commodities, all placed on dishes for everyone to help themselves. To help yourself is one of the customs of the country, for they do not stand on ceremony.

The whistle is blown for supper, and the men rush to the house, and many a joke is cracked while they partake of the good things set before them. After supper the kitchen is cleared of tables, etc., and merry-making is indulged in. This goes on until about 10 o'clock, when the men retire to their caboose for the night. The caboose is a house on wheels, fitted with berths similar to those met with on board ship.

After threshing is finished it is the rule for each farmer to supply what extra horses are required to haul them on to the next farm. The farmer either follows the machine himself or sends a man to pay back labour. This goes on till the whole of the settlement is threshed out and straw piles take the place of stacks.

As soon as the first snow comes to stop, cattle cease to wander over the prairie, and are usually turned into the straw pile during the day to feed as they like. Whatever is trampled under foot is cleared up each night and taken to the stable to be used for bedding, as the cattle will have picked over the best of it. Many people would imagine this a very wasteful practice, but it is not so, after the first few days have passed, as the weight of the snow on top settles the straw quite tight, and the cattle are kept quite busy pulling it out. There is a danger of cattle getting buried in the straw between two settings, as they burrow where the separator has stood for the chaff and light

oats. The straw is apt to slide off the top with the weight of the snow and bury them. If a point is made to count them in the stable each night this will soon be discovered.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### SHOOTING.

Most new settlers are glad of a little diversion from the ordinary farm work and form parties for a day's rabbit shooting. In the fall of the year there is good shooting to be had, as, besides rabbits, there are the prairie chicken and wild geese. The latter feed on the stubbles, in large flocks, and can only be hit with the rifle, as it is seldom one can get within gun shot of them. The first fall of snow is a good time to get at the rabbits, as they are more easily seen. Unlike their English brethren they do not burrow in Manitoba but squat on top all the winter. They are very easy to shoot and fairly plentiful. There is no restriction to where one may shoot, as most farmers shoot over each other's lands, and there is always plenty of vacant land besides. No dog or gun licenses are required, both are free. It is advisable to lay in a stock of rabbits before Xmas, as their coats turn white in midwinter it then becomes a difficult matter to distinguish them from the snow. They also have the reputation of being

bitter at this time of year as they live chiefly on the bark of trees.

Good duck shooting is to be had early in the season. Ducks are much in evidence during the month of June in the low lying lands and marshes. Very few farmers trouble about them as at this time most men are busy and do not care to lose the time to follow them up.

Guns of English make are expensive and are eagerly sought after at sales by farmers. Belgium made guns can be bought for about 15 dollars.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### MARKETS.

THERE are several ways of disposing of grain. In all towns and at most railway points there are large grain elevators, where buyers buy by the load. In towns where the competition is at all keen it is quite exciting to watch the buyers or their touts vieing with each other to secure the loads. As soon as a farmer enters, they board his load and dive into the bags. The wheat is examined and quickly graded, and in a flash the price offered is shouted out. In the event of two bids being the same, the first one to shout claims the load. The farmer is given a coloured ticket, which indicates the grade. He draws up to the elevator and

awaits his turn to unload at the hopper in which it is weighed. A certain quantity is deducted for tailings. In most cases they take the odd pounds if it is not too dirty. The number of bushels, sixty pounds to a bushel, are totalled up, the farmer draws his dollars, and so ends the deal.

Sometimes small farmers combine and load a car between them when they have the advantage of being near a railway. It is shipped direct to Fort William, the great grain centre, cleaned and graded at the elevators. A price is offered by return, and should the farmer not care to accept it, and prefers to wait for a rise in the market, it is stored to his order for a small charge per bushel per month, and also a small charge for cleaning.

This is more or less speculating. Should the price rise a telegram sells it. All wheats are commercially graded by qualified inspectors. No. 1 Manitoba hard, according to regulation, should consist of 60 per cent. of Fife wheats.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### CATTLE FARMING.

APART from the large ranches which are chiefly the monopoly of large capitalists and companies, there are cattle farms pure and simple where the primary object is beef. This is a most im-

portant branch of Manitoba farming, and I can safely say the most remunerative.

The above farms are much in evidence in outlying districts, and there are numbers in the Riding Mountain district, owned chiefly by hard headed Scotchmen. This class of farming appeals to them, and, judging from the enormous herds some of them own, it requires no lengthy argument to prove they are anything else but successful. The majority of these men landed with but little in their pockets and know what it is to rough it. They have succeeded by sheer grit, and can count their cattle by hundreds, and to-day rank amongst the most prosperous settlers in the province. Within easy reach of the bush they have their homesteads out on the prairie. Little or no dairying is done, but what is necessary for the family consumption. There may be exceptions where the cream is sold if within collecting distance of a creamery. Oats form the chief crop. Beyond leaving sufficient to ripen for the horses, they are cut green in the milky stage and are known locally as green feed.

They are cut and tied in the ordinary way by the binder and set up in round stooks of about eight sheaves, which prevents bleaching by the sun. For several weeks they are allowed to stand in the field before stacking.

This proves a most useful and nutritious food for young animals and steers and is greatly relished. By many farmers it is considered a complete food in itself.



In a former chapter I have mentioned that oats should not be sown later than the 25th May, but the reader will understand this does not apply when oats are cut green.

The cows are allowed to suckle their calves. At six months old the calves are as large as yearlings would be if raised on separated milk. Early maturity is the object, and in this case the steers are ready for the butcher at least ten months earlier.

Besides the homesteads on the prairie the cattle farmers also have their winter quarters in the bush, usually close to a lake, as water, shelter, and hay can be obtained there. Stockmen's permits are taken up from the Government, which allows them to cut logs, erect stables, hay-pens, etc., on the spot. On swampy grounds, interspersed between belts of timber, a very coarse grass grows, which makes excellent fodder. It is cut and stacked in log pens at the stables ready for winter's use.

These backwood farmers are very resourceful, and there is a good deal of method in the way their buildings are constructed. The latter are so adapted to enable two men to handle hundreds of head of cattle with a minimum of labour. Some farmers have enormous ranges of log stables adjoining each other. Each stable is about 25 feet square; down the centre of each is a passage made of strong poles which forms a manger and permits of cattle feeding from both sides. At the end of the passage is a door which opens directly into a hay-pen.

The man has only to pass the hay through this door into the feeding passage, and each stable is then racked up for the night.

The cattle are all dishorned. The horns are either burnt out with caustic at an early age or cut off with a dishorner later. Minus horns they are unable to hurt each other so are turned into the stables loose, but care is taken to group only cattle of respective ages together.

About November we find them installed in their winter quarters in the bush, on the borders of small lakes. Here the cattle can have water *ad lib.* A hole is chopped in the ice and each morning is reopened, and the cattle help themselves. A pail is generally hung on a pole at the hole for teamsters to water their horses when passing. The lakes are frozen sufficiently hard to enable teams to cross the centre with their loads of wood.

Farmers who come long distances for firewood and logs usually break their journeys at these backwood settlements, and stay the night. By this means the cattle farmers obtain their news, and are kept in touch with the outside world. All the important questions of the day are discussed in these backwood shanties, for the settlers are, as a rule, keen politicians and still greater patriots, ever ready to take up arms in defence of their mother country and empire.

About the end of March they leave their winter quarters for the homesteads before thaw sets in, ready for spring work and the grazing season.

At the fall of the year, drafts of fat cattle are sold off. They are mostly bought weeks beforehand by large shippers who have their agents at most points, and are usually sold by live weight at so many cents per pound, deducting 5 per cent. of the total for shrinkage.

Shipping cattle is one of the events of the season in town, and at this time a good many dollars change hands. A wonderful collection of animals is brought together on these occasions, typical Shorthorns, Herefords, and Aberdeen-Angus, fresh off the grass, compact and ripe, and ideal butcher's meat for the old country, but alas, only to be slaughtered at the port of entry. Surely the cattle are deserving of a better fate? Numbers are bred from sires descended from the best of English and Scotch blood, and raised in one of the healthiest cattle breeding countries of the world.

They are culled, and only the best of them are exported. In fact, this applies to all produce, as the Government keeps a very watchful eye on all exports, for Canada has a reputation to lose.

Many of the cattle have not been near a town, and it goes without saying that there is fun before they are finally loaded. They are drafted from the stockyards through the weighing shed. The farmers see them weighed, and exchange their beasts for a large roll of dollar bills, satisfied they have been paid every cent the animals carry on their backs. When finally loaded the heavily laden train is watched

as it moves slowly out of the station en route for the old country. The farmers swell with natural pride in the share they take in supplying old England's beef.

---

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### TAXES.

SOME uncertainty seems to prevail as to the taxes levied on lands in Manitoba. I have often heard it said there are no taxes. While the taxes are very small this hardly represents the facts of the case. To avoid any misconception on this point, I will endeavour to supply a few particulars of taxes levied on lands in a fairly old settlement in which the writer farmed a number of years.

First of all I would point out that in well settled districts a certain number of townships comprise a municipality with their ward system somewhat similar to the District Councils in the old country. The members of the municipality are mostly farmers, elected by farmers, as the farmer's vote predominates, so it is only reasonable to suppose that the taxes are kept as low as possible.

The minimum taxes chargeable on each 160 acres in the district I mention above are 7 dollars and 60 cents per year. The maximum is 11 dollars and 60 cents. Taking an average

for 5 years it works out at about 10 dollars per year, in English money about £2 1s. 8d. for the 160 acres. The taxes are made up as follows:— General tax, Statute labour, District and County tax, Municipal school tax. The following footnote which appears on the notices sent out ~~should be interesting reading for some of the old country farmers:—~~

*A rebate of 10 per cent. will be allowed on all current taxes if paid on or before the 31st December.*

*All taxes for the current year remaining unpaid on 1st January shall be payable at par until the last day of February.*

In some instances a small mill tax is added to the above. This is brought about by the municipality offering a bonus extending over a certain number of years for a grist mill to come in and serve the district. All settlers residing in the taxable area receive direct advantage as they are allowed to have their own wheat ground into flour at special rates.

It will be observed that these taxes are not serious, and cannot be considered in any way a burden on the land.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### LAWS AND CUSTOMS.

FROM an agricultural stand-point the laws are sound and easily understood, and are especially favourable to the farming community. Muni-

cipalities manage their own local affairs, as for instance the fencing of crops and herding of cattle, which are usually decided by popular vote. In districts where the fence law is in operation, cattle and horses are allowed to wander at will during the day, and the farmer looks after his own crop, and can only claim damages where he has a legal fence around it, comprising 2 strands of barbed wire with fence posts 8 feet apart. Where the above law is in operation it is advisable for new settlers to fence all crops to avoid friction. No man is justified in allowing his animals to wander after sunset, although at times cattle will stampede and break down their kraal at night and do serious damage to unfenced crops.

In most districts farmers are appointed "fence-viewers," and should cattle or horses break down a fence, they are called in to assess the damages.

Where there is no fence law in operation cattle have to be herded for certain summer months; this means that a boy must herd them all day and bring them home at night.

Bulls are not permitted to run loose with a herd at any period of the year.

Certain weeds are classed as "noxious" weeds, thistles are included in this category. Farmers are appointed in most districts as "noxious weed" inspectors with a view to keeping them down.

There is a liberal exemption law in force in Manitoba which protects from seizure for debt

a certain number of cattle, horses, pigs and poultry, seed grain implements and household effects, also sufficient oats and feed to carry horses over the year, provided they have not been mortgaged in any way. Should misfortune overtake the farmer such as hailstorms or severe frost, he cannot be sold up so long as he cares to remain on the farm. If he attempts to leave, the exemption law ceases to apply.

It is contrary to law to set out prairie fires, and if one is found guilty of this offence the fines prove to be very heavy.

Justices of the Peace are appointed in different districts. They are usually farmers and have power to settle disputes and levy fines. Occasionally a magistrate is called on to settle disputes while occupied in the field, and should the necessary Book be at hand he generally manages to adjust matters to the satisfaction of both parties.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### LABOUR.

THE high wages so often heard of as paid to the agricultural labourer in Canada is more or less misleading. Such wages as thirty dollars a month, with board, lodging, and washing are not obtained to-day. There may be a few cases where the above wages are paid, but this would be where the man is practically master. Generally speaking, for a farm hand on a

twelve months' engagement, ten or twelve dollars per month, with board, lodging, and washing is nearer the mark, and he is a good man who can command the above wages all the year round. This, of course, does not apply to short-time men who are only required during a busy season. By following various occupations during certain periods of the year it is possible to earn higher wages. This is done by working on a farm from spring till harvest, the fall of the year with a threshing machine, and winter in the lumber camps.

It is the custom on a farm to pay the hired man's wages at the termination of his engagement. What he may require in the way of clothes, etc., is purchased for him and deducted from his pay at the end.

Men in search of work are always sure of a meal and a night's shelter at any homestead. They may be asked to buck a little wood in return for what they receive.

Under no consideration should young men pay premiums to learn farming. I wish to particularly emphasize this point. However incompetent a man may think himself, from an agricultural point of view, there is sure to be a certain amount of manual labour which is expected of him and for this he should be paid. All men who are willing to work can command board and wages, however small the latter may be.

There are numbers of boys and young men in the country who have been sent out through



the agencies of the late Dr. Barnado's homes and other kindred institutions. These have been the chief factor in reducing the wages to a fair level.

Canadian boys take to farm work at an early age. They learn to ride and herd cattle when quite young, and are accustomed to look after their own horse during school days, for in numbers of cases they have to drive to school owing to the long distances they have to go. There is usually a stable at each school and each boy attends to his own horse. From this period onwards he makes steady progress and will be found with a plough and a team of horses at the age of fourteen.

The girls learn to milk when quite young and soon become useful, so it will be seen, indeed, that lucky is the man with a large family. Many hands make light work, and the more the merrier.

Canadian girls seldom or never go out to service as there is always plenty for them to do at home. Domestic servants are very scarce, and, what there are, are chiefly English girls sent out by English institutions. If one is fortunate enough to obtain a girl, she seldom stays long, and, considering the dearth of women in the country, it is in no way surprising to find a number of bachelor farmers calling at the homestead, either by accident or design, offering to drive the girl out to look around. It invariably ends in her becoming the mistress of a farm and making some bachelor happy.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

---

SOCIAL ADVANTAGES, ETC.

---

IN most settled districts there are unsectarian schools where education is free, or one can be erected where there are ten children of school age. No church is recognised by the State, but all denominations are represented, and there are churches and chapels in most settlements. The parsons visit the outlying districts periodically and hold services at some central farm-house.

Each municipality has its Agricultural Show towards the fall of the year, where the farmers vie with each other to take off the chief prizes for horses, cattle, etc. There are usually classes for the farmers' wives and daughters to compete in with butter, cheese, bread, preserves, and needlework.

Picnics are organised during summer in country districts for mutual intercourse, and everyone turns out. Master and men all endeavour to take these in. They are annual gatherings, and are usually held at a convenient farm. An especial feature of these gatherings is that everyone takes a basket laden with good things. The young folk indulge in base ball and cricket, assisted by music and dancing, and a very enjoyable day is spent.

The first thing that strikes the new comer

to Canada is the absence of class distinction, and the further one journeys west the more marked it becomes. No matter how better off one man may be than his neighbour, all are equal from a social point of view, and what is more noticeable, the newcomer quickly throws off the restraint so familiar in England before he has been in the country long.

The social element is much more marked in mixed settlements where there is a fair sprinkling of English, Scotch, Irish and Canadians, as they pull better together.

The parson sometimes drops in at dinner time and is quite content to take things as he finds them. Should the men be away in the fields, he is not above putting away his own horses and feeding them. Neither does he forget to call at the Post Office for your mail when coming your way.

In the fall of the year occasionally "Scrub hunts" are organised—generally farmers *versus* townsmen, the latter being often headed by the parson. Both parties leave a certain point and shoot everything they can. All guns have to be back at the starting point at a fixed time, and those arriving after that specified time are disqualified. The contents of the bags are sorted out and a certain number of points awarded for fur and feather. The side scoring the least number of points, usually stands supper for the whole party at the local boarding house.

Most of the holidays observed in England

are enjoyed in Canada. There is also the national holiday, viz., Dominion Day, which is kept on the 1st July. This is the great holiday of the year, and it comes at a very convenient time between farm work. Large and small towns hold sports on this day.

Most little towns have their own local weekly papers, and the weekly papers from Montreal and Winnipeg are also available for the small subscription of one dollar per year. They devote a good many columns to agricultural matters, and are important factors in educating settlers in the various branches of farm work, besides keeping them informed of the rise and fall in the principal eastern markets. There are also good agricultural papers circulating in the North-west.

Manitoba is essentially a prohibition country where local option prevails; only in important towns are there licensed houses.

Most articles can be purchased at moderate prices, and all necessities are cheap. Luxuries such as tinned imported goods are expensive. Clothes and boots are moderate, so it is not advisable to newcomers to buy a large stock, unless it is underclothes or a suit or two of best clothes. A special working suit suitable for the climate and hard wear can be bought reasonably. A common mistake made by most people is taking out boots with heavy soles. Only light boots are required and can be bought more cheaply in the country. It is the uppers, not the soles, that wear out first.

In the older settlements there are Cottage hospitals. Workhouses are unknown, and the able-bodied pauper is likewise unknown.

Towns of any size have their local banks. Besides the ordinary banking business they negotiate loans on farm stock, etc., at about 12 per cent, and also do a large business in discounting promissory notes.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### FAILURES AND THEIR CAUSES.

It must not be supposed that every man who takes up farming in Canada is successful, far from it. There are some who, through mismanagement and other causes, are only just getting a living. Judging from what I have seen, the failures are of two classes. The man with insufficient capital, and the man who landed with much and failed to put it to the right use.

The experience of two persons is seldom the same. One man flourishes where another fails. Making all due allowances for this, the following are the considerations which occur to me, and I put my observations in writing for what they are worth.

Foremost is the man who has worked out a year or two as a hired-man. He may have been steady and hard-working and saved a few hundred dollars. Desirous of becoming a full-

fledged farmer, he purchases a team of horses, harness, and plough, and probably rents a farm. After having bought seed, grain, and feed for his team he finds his capital exhausted. Waggon, mower, and rake, and harrows are obtained on credit, and he signs a promissory note, promising to pay off a portion each year. At the same time the vendor is careful to insert a clause holding a lien on the implements until they are finally paid for. Possessing no cattle to keep him whilst the crops are growing, he runs an account at the stores for provisions, etc., and very often purchases what he should be producing himself. His crops are burdened from the commencement. At the end of the year he discovers his financial position is not what he anticipated. With rent, taxes, binding twine, cost of cutting crop, threshing and labour to pay, after deducting seed and feed for another year, there is very little, if anything, left to pay the stores bill, and meet payments on machinery.

There are loan societies in the country, but not for this kind of farmer. They only advance money to men who have some backing, notably cattle.

With hope deferred, there is nothing left to do but to temporise with creditors and renew promissory notes, hoping for better luck next year.

At the end of the second year, he will find his indebtedness increased by interest; although his crop may be good, perhaps prices are not.

Under the system of local registry of notes, mortgages, etc., tradesmen have every opportunity of ascertaining the amount of a man's indebtedness, and make a shrewd guess of what he is worth. As soon as his crop is threshed, each tradesman wants his pound of flesh, and forces him to sell often at low prices. He may struggle on a year or so, still unprogressive. Realising he is only working for tradesmen and fighting against long odds, he throws up the sponge and joins the ranks of the hired-men again, and blames the country for his misfortunes. If these men were wise they would turn their earnings into cattle, buying young stock and placing them out with a neighbour on a profit sharing basis. The stock would grow into money, and put a man on his feet when ready to start farming for himself.

The other failure is the "remittance" man, who has missed his vocation in the old country, and, as a last resource, tries farming in Canada. He may have had a good education and a fair share of nature's good gifts, but fails to put them to the right use. He lands in the country with enough money to start fairly, but declines to work as a hired-man to gain experience, and is very much the man about town for the first few weeks, announcing that he wishes to buy a farm, also spending his money freely. It invariably happens that he gets saddled with a low-lying farm, one that most people with experience would pass by. This results in his being at least ten days later than most of his

neighbours in the spring, and consequently the same at harvest. When stocking the farm he discovers that the money squandered might have been put to a better use. Unaccustomed to the frugal life, and denying himself nothing, machinery, etc., is obtained on credit. He fails to adopt the methods of the country and generally ignores his neighbours' advice. They know his end, as they have seen this kind of settler before. Cows are irregularly milked, and other animals indifferently fed, and he marvels because they do not thrive. With other similar mistakes, too numerous to specify, he struggles on more or less a failure. His capital flown, his name does not cut such a wide swarth on the back of a promissory note as it once did, and he finds his paper very much at a discount. With remittances stopped from home, like others that have gone before him, he seeks green fields and pastures new, giving the country a bad name and blaming it for his self-inflicted troubles.

Further comment is superfluous. It is obvious that if wiser heads prevailed at the outset, and the necessary capital withheld until experience had been gained, there would be every prospect of success and no reason why the individual in question should not become a good settler and an acquisition to the country.



## CHAPTER XXIX.

## CONCLUSION—HOW SUCCESS CAN BE OBTAINED.

EXPERIENCE is most important. Commence with sufficient capital, and adopt the methods of more progressive farmers. Cultivate the land in a proper manner and leave nothing to chance. Sow early, and sow good seed. Start with cattle at the earliest opportunity, for this is the chief factor that lies at the very root of success. Buy nothing you can grow yourself, avoid second-hand machinery, and endeavour not to make the same mistake twice. Keep out of debt, and don't try to run before you have learnt to walk. Do not be downhearted at the first reverse but forge ahead, come what may. If a man makes steady progress the first three years he ought to succeed, for the troubles that may be in store can scarcely be greater than those he has surmounted.

In these remarks will be found the elements of success, and, if strictly adhered to, will fulfil their purpose.

JOHN HARDY.

✓  
"Cheer, boys, cheer! the steady breeze is blowing,  
To float us freely o'er the ocean's breast;  
The world shall follow in the track we're going,  
The star of empire glitters in the west.  
Here we had toil and little to reward it,  
But there shall plenty smile upon our pain;  
And ours shall be the mountain and the forest,  
And boundless prairies ripe with golden grain.

Cheer, boys, cheer! for England, mother England,  
Cheer, boys, cheer! united heart and hand;  
Cheer, boys, cheer! there's wealth for honest labour,  
Cheer, boys, cheer! in the new and happy land."

CHARLES MACKAY.

A SELECTED LIST OF  
**Mr. Henry J. Drane's Publications,**  
 SALISBURY HOUSE, SALISBURY SQUARE, FLEET STREET,  
 LONDON, E.C.

**DRANE'S SIX SHILLING POPULAR NOVELS.**

All Bound in Cloth Extra, Large Crown 8vo, Bevelled Boards.

**THE REVEREND JACK.** By NAUNTON COVERTSIDE (Naunton Davies), author of "Chester Cresswell," "The Secret of a Hollow Tree," "A Tale of the Commonwealth," "The King's Guide."

From the late DEAN FARRAR.

"I have read 'The Reverend Jack' with deep interest, and trust that it will meet with well-deserved success. I found it much more interesting than a vast number of stories which are daily being published, and, as far as I am capable of forming an opinion, I think it ought to succeed."—*F. W. Farrar.*

From Mr. JOSEPH KEATING of *The Idler*, author of "Son of Judith."

"Some of the ideas expressed are really of a high order, and the language often reaches excellence and elegance. The story is bright and crisp, but not without solidity. The libraries should create a strong demand for it."

"The book is clever and strong, well worked out, and carefully written. With such qualities as these to recommend it, it deserves, and can hardly fail to secure, a wide popularity."—*Glasgow Herald.*

**THREE MEN AND A MAID.** A novel by PHIL LUDLOW.

"The style is good and full of promise."—*Sporting and Dramatic.*

"A highly diverting story."—*Leeds Mercury.*

**TWO WOMEN.** A New Problem Novel. By HAROLD TREMAYNE, author of "Doris," "Shears of Fate," etc., etc.

"Original in its design. . . The book is written with a good deal of cleverness, and is entertaining."—*Daily Telegraph.*

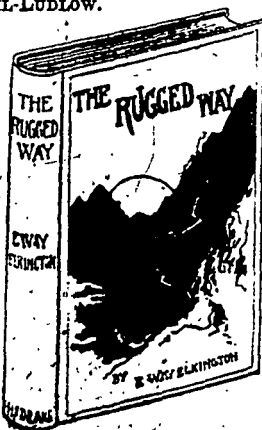
"Mr. Harold Tremayne has turned out an excellent story, most original."—*The Globe.*

**THE RUGGED WAY.** By E. WAY ELKINGTON, author of "The Lucky Shot," "The Squatter's Stud," etc., etc. 320 pages. With frontispiece by HARRY ROUNTREE.

"Written with a fine touch for local colour."—*The Daily Mail.*

"Here is a charge of murder unravelled with Sherlock Holmes' talent."—*Tatler.*

"Affords pleasant reading."—*Birmingham Post.*



Reduced Specimen of Cover

## SIX SHILLING NOVELS—Continued.

**HORACE MORELL.** By CECIL HASLWOOD. Dedicated by special permission to Lady Wimborne.

### THE ROMANCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

By Mrs. G. S. REANEY, author of "Under Orders," "Gladys's Vow," etc. 394 pages.

"Holds the reader's attention to the end."—*The Standard*.

"Full of realistic pathos."—*Christian Commonwealth*.

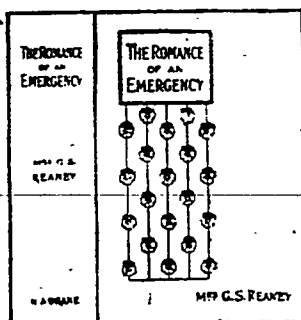
### SAINT BASIL: A NOVEL OF YESTERDAY.

By BERTHA C. FOSTER.

"A domestic picture, very true to life. No one can read it without feeling a revival of old ideals and faiths."—*Literary World*.

"The reader who takes up the book is certain not to put it down until the last word is reached."—*Lloyd's*.

"The moral tone is distinctly elevating, and the story, well worked out, is thoroughly interesting from start to finish."—*Dundee Advertiser*.



Reduced Specimen of Cover.  
Size of Book, 7½ by 5½.

### THE HOUSE ON THE MINE.

By the author of "Saint Basil."

"A bright story in which all the characters move instinct with vitality."—*The Guardian*.

"A thoroughly pleasant, wholesome, and lovable story, with a charmingly human and breezy girl for its heroine. The dialogue is quite exceptionally natural; the little fishes are never made to talk like whales."—*St. James's Gazette*.

### RUDDERLESS SHIPS.

By AIRAM. 307 Pages.

"The author evidently knows a good deal about the treatment of the neurotic, and the story will serve a useful purpose if the counsel in the epilogue is followed."—*Literary World*.

"A novel which attracts one from the first chapter and in the perusal of which the reader gradually becomes quite interested in the 'Rudderless Ships.'"—*T.P.'s Weekly*.

### NO ONE TO BLAME.

By author of "Rudderless Ships." 342 pages.

"Simply and gracefully told."—*To-Day*.

"Sparitly written . . . an engaging story."—*Scotsman*.

### TALES OF THREE COLONIES: TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA, AND ZEALANDIA.

By EVELYN ADAMS.

"The stories ripple along in an attractive sort of way."—*St. James's Gazette*.

"Charmingly written studies of human nature."—*Midland Express*.

### UNDER ONE FLAG.

By CAPTAIN WILLOUGHBY BEDDOES. A story of the Boer War.

"A touch of realism that is most convincing . . . clear and straightforward, and the story is full of incident."—*The Outlook*.

"A capital tale of adventure with a pretty love story running through it."—*Bristol Times*.

### RUDDIMENTS.

New Lands to Old Homes. By FLORENCE GALBRAITH.

### THE DROPPING OF AN H.

being a story of a Family Complication.

By EVA GARVEY, author of "Rosamond's Story."

### ONE FRAIL WOMAN AND FOUR QUEER MEN.

By EDGEMOND STALEY.

### MY OWN DEATH.

By "Limbo."

### CASH IS KING.

A Novel. By ARROWHEAD. Crown 8vo, cloth.

## SIX SHILLING NOVELS—Continued.

**ARDNARIGH.** An Irish Novel. By MELVILLE GRAY.

"Many people will read this novel drawn from real life with pleasure."—*Christian World*.

**MRS. WATERMAN.** A Novel. By NOAH LAMPKIN.

**THREE LIVES AND A LOVE.** By W. H. FARRAR.

"Lively and spirited."—*Morning Post*.

"There is plenty of incident in the book . . . written with considerable smartness."—*The Bookeller*.

**THE SWEETNESS OF REVENGE.** By R. WILLIAMSON.

**THE PROFESSOR'S WIFE.** By BRETHOLD AUMBRACH. Translated by F. E. HYNAM.

"Charmingly told."—*Literary World*.

"The story is a remarkable study of German life and character."—*Daily Graphic*.

**THE GAME OF LOVE.** By WALTER FULLER.

"A strong piece of delightful character study."—*Dundee Courier*.

**REAL LIFE.** A Novel. By C. S. MARSHALL. Crown 8vo.

**LOVE'S AFTERMATH.** By MAUD WOOD.

**WILLIAM DE WINTON.** By Rev. A. C. HIGHTON.

**JOHN TOWNLEY: A TALE FOR THE TIMES.** By R. THYNNE.

"A book worth reading."—*Outlook*.

"There is much matter of deep interest in the book."—*Scotsman*.

**LORD CULMORE'S ERROR.** A Novel. By MARY ALBERT. Crown 8vo, cloth.

**A GODDESS FROM THE SEA.** A story of perils in China. By the author of "Under One Flag."

"A Goddess from the Sea" will be welcomed as a series of startling adventures that have been put upon the page in a spirited manner. There is one tremendous scene in which Mr. Elder Haggard's feats of bloodletting are challenged."—*Literary World*.

**IN THE COILS OF THE SERPENT.**

By MARGUERITE ROSSO. A Hypnotic Novel. Crown 8vo, cloth, with frontispiece.

**COMRADES.** A Novel. By ANNABEL GRAY, author of "A Spanish Singer," etc., etc. Demy 8vo. 392 pages.

"The book begins at high pressure and keeps the pressure at its utmost through much more than the ordinary length of a novel."

**THE SECRET OF HER LIFE.** By AGNES M. and WILLIAM J. ROWE.

"The language palpitates with emotion and sentiment."—*St. James's Gazette*.



Reduced Specimen of Cover

SIX SHILLING NOVELS—Continued.

## Popular Historical Novels.

**SIR WALTER'S WIFE.** By EMILY RICHINGS. An Historical Romance. Illustrated with Portraits of Sir Walter and Lady Raleigh. Large crown 8vo, cloth.

"Of exceeding interest."—*Saturday Review*.

"A romance of marvellous interest."—*Birmingham Daily Post*.

*The above book has recently been accepted by His Majesty King Edward.*

**NICHOLAS MOSLEY, LOYALIST.** By Rev. E. F. LUTTS and MARY F. S. LUTTS.

**COWPER AND MARY UNWIN.** By CAROLINE GHEARNY. Crown 8vo, cloth. Price 6s. A charming narrative of the Love Story of the great Poet.

## BOOKS ON THE FISCAL QUESTION.

**THE FAILURE OF FREE TRADE.** As proved by the Foreign Commerce of England. By ARTHUR FELL, M.A., F.S.S. Price 1s.

"Mr. Arthur Fell makes it abundantly clear that, as things are going on at this moment, we are paying for some part of the excess of imports over exports with capital, not with profits. How long can we afford to do this?"—*Glasgow Herald*.

"May be studied with advantage."—*Glasgow Herald*.

"A telling indictment of a policy which has well-nigh ruined English agriculture."—*Agricultural World*.

**THE JOSEPH JINGLE BOOK.** By MOSTYN PIGOTT. Price 1s.

"Mr. Pigott's skill in topical verse is well known . . . is extremely clever and amusing."—*Liverpool Courier*.

"Extremely smart verses apropos to the fiscal policy question."—*Dundee Advertiser*.

**JOHN BULL & SONS, LTD., MUTUAL PROTECTION ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.** By F. W. KINGSTON. Price 1s.

"A cleverly wrought-out economic apologue."—*Scotsman*.

**THE IMPERIAL GAME.** As played by the Nations. Price 1s. By ANTIWOOD.

**BRITAIN'S WEALTH IN GREATER BRITAIN.** By H. S. THOMAS. Price 1s.

"The book is likely to prove useful."—*To-Day*.

**THE PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT OF ENGLAND'S FOREIGN TRADE** for the past 16 years. By ARTHUR FELL, M.A., F.S.S. Price 6d.

"Full of useful facts and figures."—*Leeds Mercury*.

"The subject is admirably dealt with."—*Melton Newbury Times*.

## Children's Illustrated Gift Books.



Redwood Specimen of Cover.  
Size of Book, 9½ by 7.

**WILHELM'S FORTUNE, and other Fairy Tales.** By E. SIMONET THOMPSON.  
Illustrated. Price 3s. 6d.

"Beautiful stories."—*Tattler*.

"A very cleverly imagined set of stories young."—*Madam*.

"Unusual excellence."—*Literary World*.

**THE TRUE STORY OF TIDDLEY WINKS AND TAKEY TUSS.** Told by Themselves, and Edited by their kind Mistress "Kitty." Charmingly illustrated, and prettily bound in cloth, gilt. Price 2s. 6d.

"We have here a very prettily got-up book adapted to children . . . It is quite entertaining."—*The Queen*.

"A very natural and interesting story."—*Glasgow Herald*.

**THE KING OF THE CATS.** A Christmas Story for older children. Written and illustrated with 18 original drawings by A. C. STANNUS. Price 3s. 6d.

"Excellent illustration by the author."—*Literary World*.

"An amusing story of animal life."—*Observer*.

**THE ODD FANCIES OF GWEN.** A Book of Children's stories and pictures, written by GWEN FORDWOOD. With 10 full-page coloured pictures and numerous outline wood blocks from drawings by the author. Size, 11½ by 8½ oblong. Price 3s. 6d.

**THE WHITE PRINCE.** By KATE STANWAY. Illustrated with 20 full-page and numerous other pictures by W. F. COLES. Cloth extra, bevelled boards. White foil and Two Inks.

Price 3s. 6d.

"Warm praise must be given to 'The White Prince.' The names of the flowers are endowed with meanings, and a really pretty fairy drama is enacted with the flower-spirits of the different seasons as dramatic personae."—*The Literary World*.

"Very prettily illustrated, and apt to teach children to be interested in flowers."—*The Times Literary Supplement*.

"Anybody who can in these latter days hit upon a novel subject for a Christmas book, and treat it novelly, is surely entitled to warm praise, and we may congratulate Miss Stanway on a charming story, into the dainty spirit of which the illustrator has thoroughly entered. The printing is excellent, and the binding, with its design of white prince and white roses, most attractive."—*The Bookeller*.

will prove a great favourite with the

## Miscellaneous Publications.

**THE NEW CINDERELLA.** Eleven Plays. By Lady CATHERINE MILNES GASKELL. Cloth extra, large crown 8vo. Price 6s. (or each Play can be had in paper covers at 6d.).

"Excellent reading, and should lend themselves remarkably well to production by an amateur troupe."—*Sunday Special*.

"Bright, short plays (which may be had separately) well suited to amateur performance."—*The Bookman*.

**MISS MARIE CORELLI.** By KENT CARR. An *Edition-de-luxe*, printed on superior antique wove paper, crown 8vo, to range in size with the Works of this Popular Writer. Illustrated with large specially-taken pictures. Price 5s. nett. Edition limited to 500 copies, each copy being numbered.

**SIR HENRY IRVING AND MISS ELLEN TERRY.** By WALTER CALVERT. A record of over twenty years at the Lyceum Theatre. Illustrated with 76 superb pictures, many of which can never be reproduced. Two hundred and fifty Copies only of this edition printed for England, and fifty for America. Each one numbered. Price 5s. nett. Only a few can now be had.

**AT HOME IN INDIA.** By Mrs. HERBERT REYNOLDS. Price 6s.

"The outcome of a remarkably well-kept diary . . . pleasant and attractive reading."—*Country Life*.

**VIEWS OF LIFE (OF A LESSER MAN).** Derived from Popular Proverbs by CAROLINE GEARNY. Just published. Cloth extra. Foolscap 8vo. Price 1s. 6d.

"The reader will see that he will get in this volume some wit, and he may be assured that he will also find some wisdom."—*Spectator*.

"Will be read with enjoyment by most people."—*Yorkshire Post*.

**THE DAYSPRING FROM ON HIGH.** By ESTHER FAITHFULL FLEET. 2 vols. 6s. each.

*A Book every Lady ought to have.*

**THE ART OF BEING BEAUTIFUL.** By S. G. In cloth covers. Price 1s.

"Will be read with interest by women."—*Daily Graphic*.

"Such works are no doubt needed."—*The Scotsman*.

"Has agitated the entire office."—*St. James's Gazette*.

"The book is well worth reading for the good-natured cynicism of the witty Baroness and the useful advice which will be found in its pages."—*Public Opinion*.

"The counsels of this book are . . . full of good sense."—*Spectator*.

**MUST YIELD TO WIN.** By ADELINA. Crown 8vo, cloth. Price 3s. 6d.

**A CHILD OF JAPAN.** By EDWARD H. HOUSE. Crown 8vo, cloth. Price 3s. 6d.

"There are few people who will not want to hear what so long a resident of Japan, and so intelligent a writer as Mr. House, has to say about the missionaries that their advocates are not willing to have us know."



# MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS—Continued.

**Studies in Small Philosophy.** By HUGO AMES. Price 1s. 6d.

**'Twixt the Lights;** or, ODD NOTES FROM ODD TIMES. With other Sketches and Drawings in Black and White by W. W. FENN. Author of 'Half-Hours of a Blind Man's Holiday,' 'After Sundown,' 'Waves in Darkness,' &c. In Two Vols. Price 24s. With Frontispiece by LOUISE JOPLING.

**Wife, Yet no Wife.** A Remarkable Story of To-day. By JOHN COLEMAN. Author of 'Curly; An Actor's Story,' 'The White Lady of Rosemont,' 'Rival Queens,' &c., Three Vols. Crown 8vo. Price 31s. 6d.

"Mr. Coleman has written a tale which has the merit of carrying the reader on from page to page, with a keen desire to follow the evolution of the narrative."—*Globe*.

**Random Recollections.** By ROBERT GANTHONY. Author of 'A Brace of Partridges,' Crown 8vo, cloth extra With Portrait of the Author, and other Illustrations. Price 6s.

**Twenty.** A New Volume of Story and Song. A Gold Mine for Reciters. Crown 8vo, 124 pp., limp cloth, price 1s. By ROBERT OVERTON.

"The Sketches are light but always spirited, and the verse is pleasant to read."—*Scotsman*.

**The Truth About the Dead Heart.** Reminiscences of the Author and the Actors. By JOHN COLEMAN, with many full-page Illustrations by Horace Retherick. Crown 8vo, paper covers, 1s.

**Highlands, Lochs and Glens.** By MRS. TOM KELLY, illustrated by TOM KELLY. 64 pp. in Picturesque Cover. Price 1s.

**Ivresse D'Amour (Varieties in Prose and Verse).** By G. NIKRAL. Price 3s. 6d.

**The Marriage Contract.** (A Sketch of the Australian Federal Campaign—in four acts), and other Poems. By HELEN ORR CAMPBELL. Price 3s. 6d.

## MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS—Continued.

**A Year with Nature.**

By W. PERCIVAL WESTELL. Author of "A Handbook of British Breeding Birds," &c. Illustrated with Photographs from Nature and Still Life, by J. T. Newman, G. Watnough Webster, H. Stone, and from Drawings by the Author. Over 170 Illustrations. Royal 8vo, cloth extra, gilt, 276 pp. Price 10s. 6d.

"A handsome present for anyone."—*Science Gossip*.

"A series of delightful essays on the natural history world. The book is enhanced in attractiveness by 170 beautiful illustrations from photographs."—*The Pall Mall Gazette*.

"This is really a delightful book. . . . One can only feel grateful to Mr. Westell for giving us such a wonderfully interesting book. The book would be worth buying for the pictures alone; combined with the letter-press they make a perfect book. The work is beautifully produced."—*The Daily Graphic*.

"A charming book. . . . Both as regards general arrangement and illustrations it would be difficult to find a more attractive work in its own popular class of literature."—*Morning Post*.

"This is a very charming book. . . . The pictures of bird life are the most beautiful that have ever been produced as book illustrations; and they alone are more than good value for the modest 10s. 6d. at which this handsome volume is issued. . . . This pleasantly written and excellently printed book, which possesses alike great artistic merit and educational value."—*The Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News*.

UNIFORM WITH THE ABOVE BOOK,

**Country Rambles,**

being a Field Naturalist's Diary for a year, containing:

Lists of Wild Flowers found in bloom throughout the year; Birds in Song; Birds seen or heard; List of Summer Migrants; Where our Summer Migrants spend the Winter; Rambles through the Zoological Gardens; List of Butterflies to be looked for each month; Field Rambles (setting out the delights of Country Life, &c.); Copious Natural History Notes and Queries, and generally the progress of Nature from January to December; also the Natural History Calendars of the Rev. Gilbert White and William Markwick from the year 1766 to 1793.

Profusely illustrated with a splendid Series of Photographs taken direct from Nature by J. T. Newman, and from Drawings by Arthur Martin. Price 10s. 6d.; by post, 6d. extra.

This Work contains a unique Series of Cuckoo Photographs (nine in all) showing Young Cuckoo ejecting eggs, and Young Birds, and other interesting pictures illustrative of the early life history of this Bird.

## MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS—Continued.

**THE LAND OF THE LIVING DEAD.** A Startling Tale of Adventure. By **NEAL FYRE.** With eight full-page illustrations by E. A. Holloway. Crown 8vo. Price 3s. 6d.

"As thrilling a story of struggle and peril as we have read for a long time past. It will keep the reader in breathless suspense until he reaches the end."—*The Spectator.*

**THE DEVIL AND I.** A Philosophical Drama in twelve scenes. By **LEONARD LLOYD.** Cloth elegant, 4to, bevelled boards. Price 6s.

"Carefully conceived . . . the reader will not find it disappointing."—*Sheffield Daily Telegraph.*

"Vigorous thought and imaginative power."—*Glasgow Herald.*

"Plenty of 'go' and . . . real descriptive ability."—*St. James's Gazette.*

**MESSALINA.** By **F. J. WINBOLT.** A Tragedy based upon certain events in the reign of Emperor Claudius. Crown 8vo, cloth extra. Price 3s. 6d.

"It should be read with interest by every one."—*Scotsman.*

"The author handles his theme with considerable dramatic power, and contrives so keep the action unflagging."—*To-Day.*

**BACK NUMBERS.** A Collection of Poems that have appeared occasionally in *The Onlooker.* By **DENIS DUVAL.** 24mo. Paper covers in two colours. Price 1s.

"Smart parodies. . . There is a capital swing about them."—*Sheffield Daily Telegraph.*

**THE CHURCH CALENDAR AND OTHER THOUGHTS IN VERSE.** By **A LAYMAN.** Crown 8vo, bevelled boards, cloth extra. Price 6s.

"A really interesting work."—*Vanity Fair.*

"Very pleasing and inspiring."—*The Book.*

**SKETCH POEMS.** From the Portfolio of a Wandering Artist. Dedicated to Madame Gabrielle Apostoloff. By **HENRY S. PERKINS.** Crown 8vo, cloth extra. Price 3s. 6d.

**GARDEN OF MEMORIES AND OTHER POEMS.** By **MABEL GREENWOOD.** Bound in fancy boards, white cloth back, and gold lettering. Price 1s.

**O'ER SOUTHERN SEAS.** A Volume of Poems. By **G. J. TRAMES.** 872 pages. Cloth extra, bevelled boards. Price 6s.

For a full description of this Book see previous Page. ~

A YEAR  
WITH  
NATURE  
W. PERCIVAL WESTELL



H. J. DRANE

A YEAR  
WITH NATURE  
W. PERCIVAL WESTELL



Reduced Specimen of Cover.

Size of Book, 10 by 6 1/2.

## THE SAINT BRIDE'S LIBRARY OF NOTABLE NOVELS.

Fancy Cloth Bindings, 8vo. Price 3s. 6d.

**BLUE EYES AND GOLDEN HAIR.** By ANNIE THOMAS (Mrs. Pender Cudlip), author of "He Cometh Not, She Said," etc., etc.

**FRIEND OR FOE?** A Tale of an Irish Heart. By E. S. THOMPSON.  
"A really enjoyable book."—*Lloyd's*.

**DEARER THAN ALL.** A Tale of Love and War. By ROBERT OVERTON,  
author of "The King's Pardon," etc., etc.

**PUFFS OF WIND.** By HELEN DICKENS.  
"Ten short stories that are excellent."—*Lloyd's*.

**MY SILVER SPOONS.** A Novel. By EDITH HAWTREY. Crown 8vo, cloth.

**DOCTOR JOHN.** A Novel. By MARIANNE PORTSMOUTH.  
"A simple but well told story."—*Glasgow Herald*.  
"An interesting drama is developed with skill."—*Scotsman*.

**AN OLD WOMAN'S TRAGEDY.** By E. S. THOMPSON, author of "Friend or Foe?" etc., etc.  
"An intensely thrilling story."—*Liverpool Courier*.  
"Deserves high praise."—*Literary World*.

**THE GOLDMINER.** A Romance. By G. R. A.  
"A prettily-told tale . . . An ideal book to peruse during a railway journey."—*Birmingham Daily Post*.  
"A very charming story."—*Liverpool Daily Post*.

**THE WAY OF THE WORLD.** By GILBERT CROFT.  
"Carefully polished . . . will be found agreeable to read."—*Athenaeum*.  
"Smartly written . . . of high merit."—*The Scotsman*.

**BORREL'S BOG.** By F. HAINSWORTH.

**THE PROPHET'S MANTLE.** By FABIAN BLAND.  
"The story is fresh and striking."—*Pall Mall Budget*.  
"A cleverly-written story."—*Saturday Review*.

**THE SEPARATION OF THE BERESFORDS.** By CATHERINE ADAMS.

**MYSIE AND OTHER STORIES.** By BURY PALLISER BIRD.

**THE EYEGLASS OF TRUTH.** By CLARK STEPHENS.

**A COMMON-PLACE STORY.** By the author of "The Eyeglass of Truth."  
"The tale is told with an admirable directness."—*Newcastle Daily Chronicle*.  
"In matter and manner alike the novel interests and pleases."—*Scotsman*.

**THE PRIDE OF NANCY TERRY.** By Miss KATE JACKSON

## SAINT BRIDE'S LIBRARY—Continued.

**BOY OR GIRL?** By A NEW WRITER.

**A WAY OF HIS OWN.** By A. KNOTTTER, P.G.M.U.

"A distinctly amusing story."—*Spectator*.

"The story is original."—*Literary World*.

**A GIRL IN LOVE.** By Miss M. FRASER.

"An entertaining volume."—*Yorkshire Post*.

"A bright and clever piece of work."—*The Graphic*.

"A book that . . . is distinctly readable."—*The Lady*.

**THE GHOST OF CHERTGate FARM.** By ETCETERA.

"Well-written and interesting."—*Birmingham Daily Post*.

**A BLIND MAN'S LOVE.** By LAURENCE JOHN. Crown 8vo. 234 pages.

"There is running through it a sound moral and much good religious teaching."—*Christian Globe*.

**THE DEVIL'S SHILLING.** Being the Simple Narrative of the Extraordinary Career of a Certain Coin of the Realm. By CAMPBELL RAE-BROWN, author of "Kissing Cup's Race," etc., etc. 256 pages, illustrated, cloth extra.

**LOVE'S USURIES.** By LOUIS CRESWICKE. Crown 8vo, cloth.

**SHROUDED IN MYSTERY.** By the Misses STREDDER.

**WHILE THE LOTUS IS CLOSED.** By MICHAEL GRANT. A Love Sketch. Crown 8vo, cloth.

"It is well written, readable, and has a good ending."—*Spectator*.

**REAPING THE WHIRLWIND.** By GEORGE S. ASTINE.

"A moral and very exciting story."—*Daily Express*.

"It is distinctly and exciting . . . story."—*Lloyd's*.

## AN ACCEPTABLE PRESENT.

**THE A B C BRIDGE SET.** In strong Red Cloth Case, containing two Packs of best Gilt Edge Superior Cards, with round Corners, Book of Rules, and two of the A B C (Registered) Scoring Blocks. Price 5s., Post Free. Or in Red Leather Case, with Silk-lined Lid. Price 10s., Post Free.

**THE A B C BRIDGE SCORING (Registered) BLOCKS.** Size, 7½ by 4½. The best, simplest, and plainest Scoring Tablet in the market, with pencil complete. Post Free, price 8d., or 7s. per dozen.

# Drane's Shilling Railway Novels.

**My Peril in a Pullman Car.** By Major ARTHUR GRIFFITHS, Author of "Chronicles of Newgate," etc., etc. Crown 8vo, 260 pages.

**A Butler in Bohemia.** By E. NESBIT and OSWALD BARRON.

"A lively thing, and well written."—*Pall Mall Budget*.

**Mad or Married? A Manx Story.** By HUGH COLMAN DAVIDSON, Author of "The Green Hills by the Sea," "Cast on the Waters," etc., etc.

**The Splendid Negotiator.** By JEANETTE H. WALWORTH, Author of "That Girl from Texas," etc. Crown 8vo, paper cover.

**That Girl from Texas.** By J. H. WALWORTH. Crown 8vo, paper cover.

**The Prophet's Mantle.** By FABIAN BLAND. Crown 8vo, paper cover.

"The story is cleverly constructed, well written, and deeply interesting."—*Liverpool Mercury*.

**Poor Miss Smith.** The Story of a South African Illusion. By VERN PHILLIPS.

**Janus.** By EDWARD IRVING STEVENSON, Author of "The White Cookade," etc. 12mo, paper cover.

**In a Frozen Hand.** By FARLEY MILLAR. Crown 8vo, pictorial paper cover.

**A Blue-Grass Thoroughbred.** By TOM JOHNSON. 12mo, illustrated paper cover.

**Miriam Baldestier.** By EDGAR FAWCETT. Crown 8vo, paper cover.

"A pathetic and absorbing story of thrilling interest."

"Mr. Fawcett has done well."—*Saturday Review*.

**Divided Lives.** By EDGAR FAWCETT. Crown 8vo, paper cover.

"A spirited story, the interest is well sustained throughout, and the characters are firmly and clearly drawn."

"The book is written with a good deal of clearness, and is entertaining."—*Scotsman*.

**Soapbuds.** A pretty story of Campanplace Life. By the Honourable ANNIE FINCH HATTON. Crown 8vo, paper cover.

"A really fine piece of thought and work; spend a shilling on it."—*Sunday Times*.

By LADY NAPIER OF MAGDALA.  
**AS THE SPARKS FLY UPWARD.**

*A Novel of High Life.* Price 6s.

DUNDEE COURIER.—"Is powerfully written. . . . The interest in her career carries us spellbound through the book from the first Chapter to the last.

GREATLY DARING.  
**THE DRUMS OF FATE.**

By ROBERT HALIFAX.

*A Rare and Striking Testimony.* Price 6s.

G. R. Sims says: "If you want to read a book quite out of the common, read 'The Drums of Fate,' by Robert Halifax. The principal character is a girl who sells flowers near the Angel at Islington, and she talks the true talk and behaves exactly like what she is. 'Jo' Galilee is as original as any petticoat that has fitted across the fiction of the twentieth century."

"The Drums of Fate,' greatly daring, has shown us the heart of a primitive woman—a heart naked and unshamed, with all its passion and potentialities, its ugliness and its tender beauty."

PEOPLE.—"It is a bright, clever story of the darker side of London's life.

SCOTSMAN.—"With wild and passionate haste, a strange figure rushes through these pages. Mr. Halifax knows his London and its people thoroughly, and especially is he at home in such places as Silver Street and Pentonville Road. . . . The story is happily conceived, and developed with skill, and in good taste."

By Mrs. E. CRAWFORD.

**SORRELOT.**

Price 6s.

GLASGOW HERALD.—"The book contains some good writing, the descriptive matter being especially bright and vivid."

DUNDEE COURIER.—"This delightful story. . . . There is a great deal of merit in the tale."

DAILY TELEGRAPH.—"Who could resist a book with so fascinating a title? And there is more cleverness in Mrs. E. Crawford's book, in addition to the charm of the name. There is not a little feeling for personality, for the development of character, and for the influence of atmosphere, which is cleverly suggested."

A VERY WEIRD STORY.

**THE HORNED OWL.**

Price 6s.

By W. BOURNE COOKE.

DUNDEE COURIER.—"Readers who love sensational stories will enjoy this book."

MORNING LEADER.—"The author has a real gift for creepiness."

PALL MALL GAZETTE.—"Readers cannot better the story connected with the capture and thefts of this weird bird. . . . The author has written a good story."

SCOTSMAN.—"Eerie and mysteriousness are strongly in evidence in 'The Horned Owl.' An exciting story of mystery."

**GEORGE WHITEFIELD'S JOURNALS.**

Edited by W. WALE.

With Appreciations by Canon HAY ALKEN, COWPER, and J. FOSTER.

Price 3s. 6d. net. 615 pages.

This is the first time of publication since Whitefield's lifetime. It gives an account in Whitefield's own words of the revivals in England, Wales, and America in the Eighteenth Century. Dr. R. A. Torrey writes: "I shall be greatly interested in reading these Journals;" and Mr. Evan Roberts has sent word to the editor that he "enjoys reading the Journals very much."

By MARY E. STEUART.

**EVERY-DAY LIFE ON A CEYLON COCOA ESTATE.**

Price 6s.

The above interesting volume is illustrated with 20 Reproductions from Photographs.

PUBLIC OPINION.—"Mrs. Steuart's pictures of the work and general life of an estate are fascinating in their colour and realism."

**REMINISCENCES OF MANY LANDS**, being Extracts from the Five Years' Journal of a Wanderer. Price 6s. By A NOMAD (Dr. R. BROOKS POPHAM, M.R.C.P.E., F.L.S.). Illustrations by Viola G. Woulfe, Forbes Ashburner, W. F. Coles, and from Original Photographs.

Shortly, by the same author.

**FURTHER NOTES BY THE WAY**. Price 3s. 6d.. By A NOMAD ON THE PROWL.

**PICTURES WITHOUT CANVAS**. A Series of Short Essays. Price 1s. 6d. net. By CLARK STEPHENS.

SCOTSMAN—"A book of sketches and thoughts on various subjects, entertaining and instructive."

**REMINISCENCES OF A POOR HUNTING MAN**. Being Sundry Episodes in the Life of Charles Wilsillison, told by himself. Price 2s. 6d. net. Edited by HAROLD TREMAYNE, Author of "Two Women," &c.

**IARRAQUITTA**. A Romance of Monte Carlo. Price 3s. 6d. By CHARLOTTE WALES-ALMY.

GLASGOW HERALD says:—"The story has a distinct charm about it."

PALL MALL GAZETTE says:—"It has enough interest to induce the reader to finish it."

**SWEET MISTRESS ANNE**. Price 6s. By DAVID VENTNOR.

**THE EXPIATION OF THE LADY ANNE**. Price 6s. By LEBITIA SELWYN OLIVER.

**VALHALLA**. Price 6s. By GEORGE LONG.

**BARBARA LAVENDER**. Price 6s. By ROSE PERKINS.

**TWO WOMEN OF KENT**. Price 6s. By NORA DOBELL.

**HER REUBEN**. A South African Novel. Price 6s. By FRANCIS BANCROFT.

**THE CURSE AND IT WAS SO**. Price 3s. 6d. By ROMA DENE.

**THE DOOR ON THE LATCH**. Price 3s. 6d. By APPLETON ELLIS, Author of "Puffs of Wind."

**A SUMMER NOSEGAY**. Price 3s. 6d. By A NORTH COUNTRY RAMBLER.

**WHA-OO-OO!** Price 3s. 6d. By E. V. A.

**AT BREAK OF DAWN**. Price 3s. 6d. By GREGORY JAMES.

**THE EXPERIENCES OF MACK**. Price 3s. 6d. By HIMSELF.



**GWEN. A Study in Girl-Love. A Charming Love Story. Price 3s. 6d.**  
By **ANTEROS.**

**GLASGOW HERALD.**—"The average girl of sixteen will call it 'pretty.'"

**SHEWING THE WHITE FEATHER. Price 2s. By M. HARDING KELLEY.**

**STANDARD.**—"Full of an excellent moral tone and sufficiently sensational incidents and adventures."

**STORIES AND ESSAYS. Price 3s. 6d. By KATE SCANLEN.**

**PALL MALL GAZETTE.**—"Half a dozen little efforts that bear attractive titles and will amuse and interest many."

**STANDERTON UNDER MARTIAL LAW. Price 1s. By EMILY OLIVER CAROLIN.**

**SMILES FROM THE SUBURBS. Price 1s. By R. H. ROBERTS.**

**DUNDEE COURIER.**—"The stories, numbering fourteen, are brimful of humour. There is wit, cleverness, and originality in every page."

**SCOTSMAN.**—"Light, frivolous, and whimsical, the sketches will make an hour pass pleasantly."

#### **THE CHINESE LABOUR QUESTION.**

**THE TRANSVAAL LABOUR PROBLEM. Price 2s. 6d. net; or in Paper Cover, 1s. By Dr. A. E. MUNRO (of Johannesburg).**

**FETTERED TRADE. Price 1s. By ANGUS CAMPBELL.**

---

#### **NEW BOOKS READY SHORTLY.**

**WITH METHUEN IN SOUTH AFRICA. Price 6s. By H. S. GASKELL.**

**TED BUSS, THE CRIPPLE. Price 3s. 6d. By MAURICE E. A. WALLIS.**

**HAND AND LAND. Price 6s. By GEORGE LONG, Author of "Valhalla."**

**FARMING IN THE CANADIAN N.W. Price 1s. By JOHN HARDY.**

**DON'TS AND WHYS OF BEEKEEPING. Price 1s. By GORDON C. DUNN.**

**COSMIC ETHICS. The Application of Natural Laws to Social Problems. Price 3s. 6d. net. By CHARLES LEE.**

**THE A B C OF BILLIARDS. Illustrated. Price 1s. SYDENHAM DIXON**  
*(Vigilant of "The Sportsman")*

